7Seeds
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Storm in Heaven
www.storminheaven.org

7SEEDS

Meaning of the Characters' Names
Team Autumn and Team Winter

Ogiwara Ryusei
Ogi: common reed
wara: field
Ryusei: shooting star

Haza Akira
Ha: rice plant
za: stake
Aki: autumn
ra: appendix for males

Shikano Kurumi
Shika: deer
no: plain
Kurumi: walnut

Shishigaki Ran
Shishi: lion
gaki: park
Ran: orchid

Izayoi Ryoya
Izayoi: the sixteenth night
Ryoya: moonlit night

Yamaki Sakuya
Ya: eight
maki: orbits
Sakuya: junction

Nashimoto Akane
Nashimoto: pears
Akane: madder

Karita Hazuki
Karita: harvested rice field
Hazuki: the eighth month

Team Winter
Aramaki Takahiro
Ara: new
maki: circuit
Taka: hawk
hiro: wing

Tamura Yumi

田村由美

Flowers Flower Comics

7SEEDS

セブンシーズ

10

TEAM AUTUMN
OGIWARA RYUSEI

HE'S A PACIFIST WHO LIKES THINGS EASY. HE WAS BEING OPPRESSED AT AUTUMN VILLAGE.

TEAM AUTUMN
HAZA AKIRA

LEADER OF TEAM AUTUMN. HE RULES THE TEAM WITH AN IRON FIST.

TEAM WINTER
ARAMAKI TAKAHIRO

FORMER PITCHER OF THE KOSHIEN TOURNAMENT. HE ATTACHED HIMSELF TO TEAM SPRING.

TEAM SPRING
SUGURONO HANA

AN OPTIMISTIC GIRL WHO LEARNED EVERYTHING ABOUT SURVIVING IN THE WILDERNESS FROM HER FATHER.

TEAM AUTUMN
SHIKANO KURUMI

SHE'S NICE BUT WEAK. SHE WAS BEING OPPRESSED AT AUTUMN VILLAGE.

TEAM AUTUMN
SHISHIGAKI RAN

SHE LEADS TEAM AUTUMN WITH AKIRA. SHE'S A GOOD LINGUIST.

TEAM AUTUMN
IZAYOI RYOUYA

GUIDE FOR TEAM AUTUMN. A FORMER FIREMAN WHO IS INDECISIVE.

TEAM SPRING
YUKIMA HARU

TALENTED YOUNG PIANIST. HE'S A LITTLE ECCENTRIC AND ALWAYS ACTS COOL AND INDIFFERENT.

TER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARA

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flowers フラワーコミックス

TER CHARACTER CHARACTER STORY STORY STORY STORY

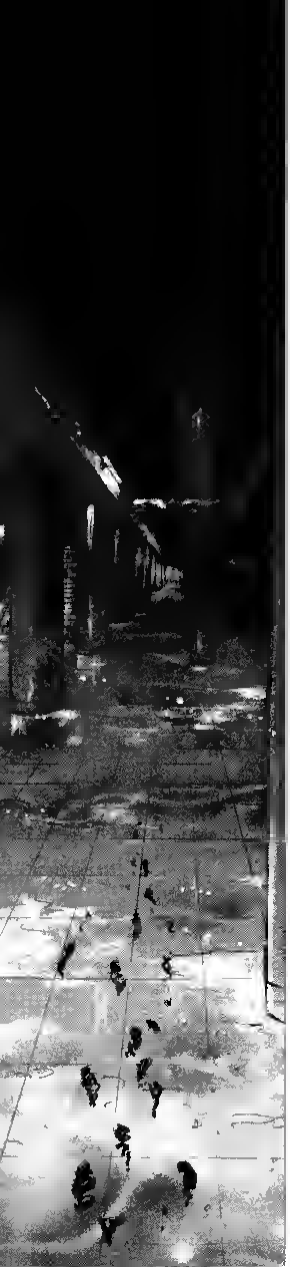
◆ TEAM SPRING: ◆

TEAM SPRING HAS SET UP THEIR BASE AT MT. KYOGATAKE, ONE OF SEVEN FUJIS WHERE THERE'S A SHELTER. BUT HANA, WHO'D BEEN SET ON BY AN UNKNOWN DISEASE, DECIDED TO DIE ON HER OWN AND LEFT THE GROUP. HARU AND ARAMAKI FOLLOWED HER AND ATTACHED THEMSELVES TO HER. THEY WERE WASHED ASHORE ON AN ISLAND, AND THERE HANA LEARNED THAT HER BOYFRIEND, ARASHI, MIGHT LIVE IN THIS WORLD, TOO. AFTER HANA GOT OVER HER DISEASE, THEY STARTED ON A JOURNEY TO KYUSHU, WHERE TEAM SUMMER B, WHICH ARASHI WAS SUPPOSED TO BELONG TO, SET UP THEIR BASE.

BUT WHEN THEY FINALLY REACHED KYUSHU, IT HAD BEEN BURIED UNDER ASH AND TURNED INTO A DEAD ZONE. THEY FOUND OUT THAT TEAM SUMMER B HAD MOVED ON, AND THEY FOLLOWED THEM TO THE KOBE FUJI. ON THEIR WAY THEY DISCOVERED A DESTROYED AND DESERTED VILLAGE AND HANA AND THE OTHERS WERE DISCOURAGED. BUT THEN HARU FOUND FOOTPRINTS IN THE RUINS OF THE KOSHIEN STADIUM...?!

WE ARE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND A HUGE METEORITE HAS COLLIDED WITH THE EARTH.

ALL LIVING BEINGS, INCLUDING THE HUMAN RACE, WERE ELIMINATED. THE GOVERNMENT, WHO HAD FORESEEN THIS WORST CASE SCENARIO, TOOK A CERTAIN COUNTERMEASURE: PROJECT SEVEN SEEDS, FOR WHICH 5 TEAMS OF SEVEN TALENTED AND CAREFULLY SELECTED BOYS AND GIRLS WERE BUILT AND PUT INTO COLD SLEEP TO SECURE THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE HUMAN RACE.



7SEEDS
セブンシーズ

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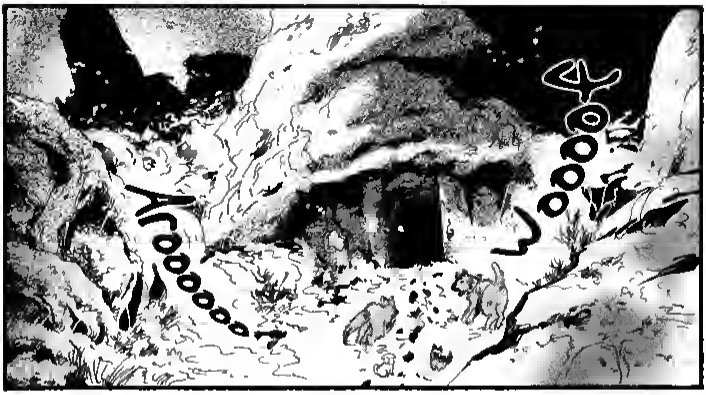
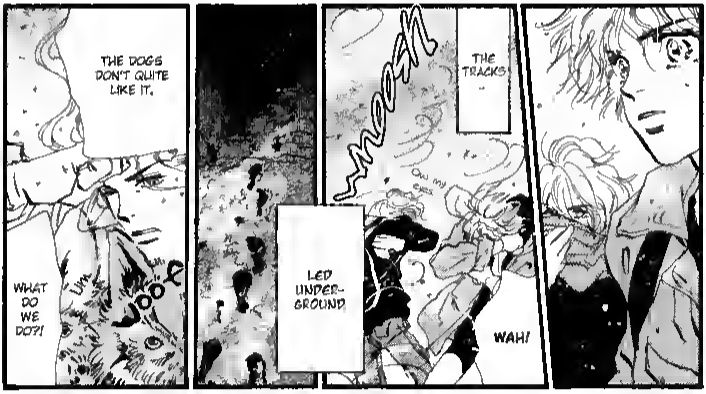
○ flowers flower comics ○

ASHES CHAPTER 2

【—LIKE SEAWEED—】

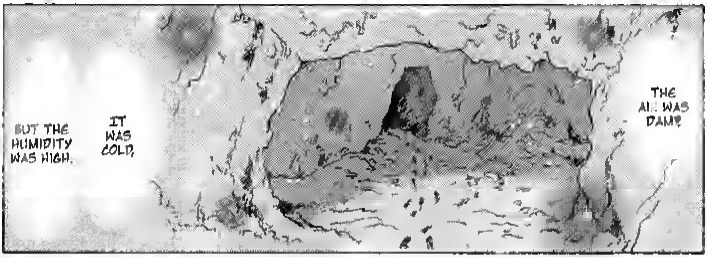
AND DECIDED TO FOLLOW THE TRACKS
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
WE HID OUR RAFT IN THE SHADE OF A ROCK SO THAT IT WOULDN'T BE COVERED WITH ASH,
Squish
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!!
THERE ARE PEOPLE!
THE FOOT-PRINTS LED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.
Growl
Woof
IT'S ASH AGAIN
PFF
IT MUST BE EITHER TEAM AUTUMN ...
OR TEAM SUMMER
SO IT SEEMED LIKE THEY WENT TO THE SHORE AND THEN RETURNED INLAND


Arooooooo
Yoooo


THE DOGS DON'T QUITE LIKE IT.
WHAT DO WE DO?!
Um
Yooo
LED UNDER-GROUND
Meow
Ow my
THE TRACKS
WAH!

IT MUST BE BETTER THAN THE ASH!
Surely
Ow Ow
LET'S GO INSIDE!

HANA,
DON'T FALL DOWN.
UH,
DON'T WORRY
Hard to know if you're talking to me?
THESE USED TO BE STAIRS, I GUESS.
THEY'RE SLIP-PERY.
HURR
HURR
WAH!
OH,
OH!
OH!
OH!


THE AIR WAS DAMP.
IT WAS COLD.
BUT THE HUMIDITY WAS HIGH.

.....
HUH?
QUIET?
AND THE WIND.
THE ONLY SOUNDS WERE DRIPPING WATER...
IT'S QUIET, ISN'T IT...?

THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE.
AH... NO
I IMAGINED IT.
IT'S NOTHING
IS SOMETHING WRONG, HARU?
THE FOOTPRINTS KEPT GOING
Trudge
Squish
Squish
Trudge
DEEPER AND DEEPER INSIDE.
Trudge
Trudge
EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS NO LIGHT IN HERE, IT WAS DIMLY VISIBLE
NOW IT'S CLIMBING DOWN?!
Trudge
IS THERE LIGHT FROM SOMEWHERE ABOVE?
HUH?!
...!!
Trudge

THE SUBWAY!!
THIS..
IS A SUBWAY STATION!
AMAZING
IT REMAINED INTACT..
It looks ready to depart
NO WAY.
WHAT?!

IT'S STILL THERE...!
OUR WORLD!
WHY IT SURVIVED!
MAYBE THE SUBWAY IN TOKYO IS LEFT, TOO!
WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT KANSAI BUT—
THAT'S RIGHT
MAYBE
Look, the inside of the buildings was a mess but if you clean it
CRUNCH
I WONDER WHICH STATION IT IS—
THE NAME OF THE PLACE ISN'T WRITTEN ANYWHERE
THAT'S STRANGE
It seems there aren't any people inside

WHEN THE METEORITE FELL AND CAUSED AN ECOLOGICAL DISASTER,
THE PEOPLE MOST LIKELY TOOK REFUGE UNDERGROUND
TOKYO WAS COMPLETELY FLOODED BY WATER
AH
NO
THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
HANA
WHERE WERE YOU... BACK THEN?
FATHER, MOTHER ...
WOOF
THE FOOTPRINTS KEEP GOING, TOO
OVER THERE
LET'S CHECK IT OUT
HUH?
I HEAR VOICES
WHICH WAY?!
How can you hear them?

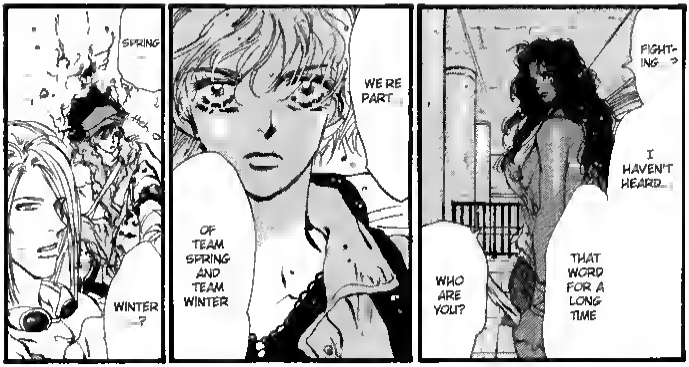
ATTACK

creak
SFX. CLATTER (X2)

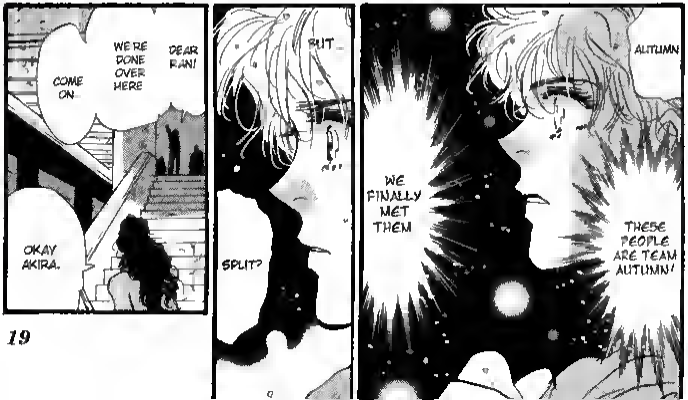
BUT I FOUND IT...
COUGH
COUGH
SO LET'S AT LEAST SHARE...
THERE ISN'T MUCH CLEAN DRINKING WATER.
ENOUGH?
DON'T COME NEAR IT.
NOW THIS WATERING PLACE IS MINE
crumble
crumble
crumble
COUGH
UGH
I'LL KILL YOU.
EEK!
RYU-SEI!?
RAN-SAN!
DON'T!
PLEASE STOP IT!
Stomp
Stomp
Stomp

OH MY,
IZAYOI-KUN, OUR WIMPY GUIDE.
YOU WERE WITH THEM?
SO, ALL THE USELESS GUYS HAVE TEAMED UP...
AND OPPOSE US?
THANKS TO WHOM DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE SURVIVED?
MAYBE ...
I REALLY WILL KILL YOU.
SWISH
CLACK
SWIP
SWIP
SWIP
SWAP

PLEASE STOP FIGHTING
WH—
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?


SPRING
WINTER...?
WE'RE PART...
OF TEAM SPRING AND TEAM WINTER
FIGHT-ING...?
I HAVEN'T HEARD... THAT WORD FOR A LONG TIME
WHO ARE YOU?

WELL, IS THAT SO?
WE'VE SPLIT... INTO TWO GROUPS NOW, THOUGH
WE'RE TEAM AUTUMN.


DEAR FAN!
WE'RE DONE OVER HERE
COME ON.
OKAY AKIRA.
SPLIT...
SPLIT?
AUTUMN
WE FINALLY MET THEM
THESE PEOPLE ARE TEAM AUTUMN!

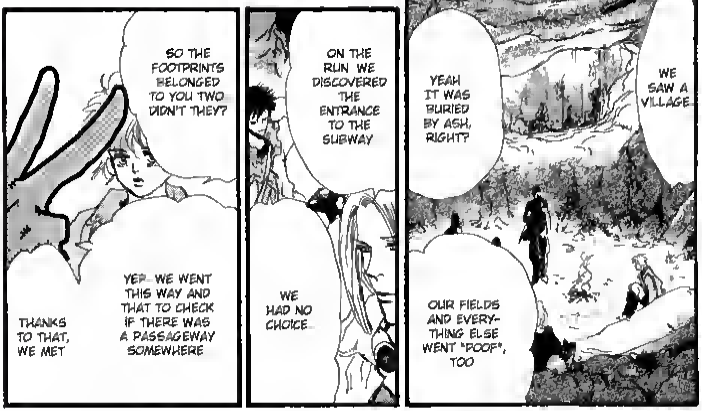
RYUSEI,
MR. GUIDE,
NEXT TIME I SEE YOU,
I MIGHT KILL YOU.
RELAY THAT...
TO THAT GIRL IN PARTICULAR.
CRACK
crumble
BUT THE ONE WHO CAME ACROSS US...
IS YOU,...
crack
crumble
crumble
crumble
crumble
CRACK
WAH!
CRACK
CRACK
Sink

THE TIDE IN...
Rumble
rumble
rumble
SQUISH
CREAK
RUN!
IT'S GOING TO COLLAPSE!
IT SEEMS SOLID UP THERE!
EVERY-BODY, CLIMB UP THERE!
Crash

IT DIDN'T REMAIN
IT DIDN'T REMAIN INTACT
THE HULL OF THE SUBWAY TRAIN
FELT LIKE SEAWEED
THIS AREA WAS ONCE FLOODED BY SEAWATER.
rustle
(Yosomi)
SO EVEN IF IT LOOKS NORMAL,
THE INSIDE IS CORRODED
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, RYUSEI-KUN?
BUT WELL, YOU SURPRISED ME
My chest hurts

I'M RYUSEI
HI
AH,
I'M IZAYOI RYOYA.
THE GUIDE
WHAT'S THAT HUGE BAG?
HM?
IT'S A LIFEBOAT
He's not going to pack it up this small.
HEH
DID YOUR PARENTS WRITE A POEM?
TO HAVE THE KANJI FOR "NIGHT" TWICE IN YOUR NAME?
DID YOU BECOME A GLOOMY PERSON?
How can you say that?
THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF GUIDES I GUESS.
DOOM
RYUSEI-KUN!
AKIRA AND THE OTHERS WERE JUST HERE
THEY TOOK OUR FOOD AND EVERY-THING
HOW'S KURUMI ?!
I'M FINE

I'M GLAD YOU'RE UNHARMED, KURUMI.
HM?
YEAH,
I MADE SURE THEY DIDN'T FIND ME.
OH!
I HID SOME OF OUR BAGS,
BUT WE CAN'T STAY HERE ANY LONGER, RIGHT?
THEY FOUND US.
LET'S MOVE TO OUR LAST HIDEOUT.
PACK UP OUR THINGS.
OKAY.
LISTEN, THIS GIRL IS KURUMI.
AND NEXT TO HER IS AKANE.
HUH?
HELLO.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
EH?
OH!
WHAT?!
TEAM AUTUMN TOLD US...
THAT THEY'D TAKEN REFUGE HERE ABOUT HALF A MONTH AGO.

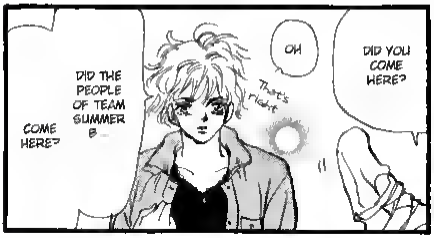

WE SAW A VILLAGE
YEAH IT WAS BURIED BY ASH, RIGHT?
OUR FIELDS AND EVERY-THING ELSE WENT "POOF", TOO
ON THE RUN WE DISCOVERED THE ENTRANCE TO THE SUBWAY
WE HAD NO CHOICE...
SO THE FOOTPRINTS BELONGED TO YOU TWO, DIDN'T THEY?
YEP... WE WENT THIS WAY AND THAT TO CHECK IF THERE WAS A PASSAGEWAY SOMEWHERE
THANKS TO THAT, WE MET

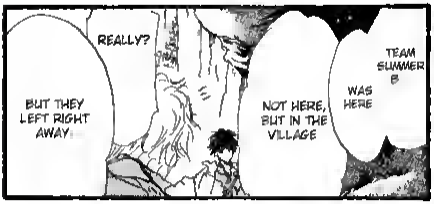
SINCE THERE'S A BEAUTIFUL GIRL LIKE HER HERE
I WAS A LITTLE HASTY, I GUESS
RIGHT, KURUMI?

...HEY,
Ahnh!
EVEN AS A JOKE, IT'S RUDE TO SAY THAT TO YOUR GIRLFRIEND.
BUT I COMPLI-MENTED HER...
HANA HATES SHALLOW MEN.
I don't like them either.
SO...
WHY DID YOU SPLIT UP...
AND FIGHT EACH OTHER?

SHOULDN'T YOU WORK TOGETHER
We're the only people here, too
AND HELP EACH OTHER OUT REGARDLESS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES?

WELL...
THERE WERE...
A LOT OF REASONS


OH
That's right
DID YOU COME HERE?
DID THE PEOPLE OF TEAM SUMMER B COME HERE?


REALLY?
TEAM SUMMER B WAS HERE
NOT HERE, BUT IN THE VILLAGE
BUT THEY LEFT RIGHT AWAY...

THEY SAID THEY WANTED TO GO TO KANTO
IS THAT SO...?
DID WE MISS THEM AGAIN?
I wonder if they went to search for Tessa!
OH...

THAT'S A NICE THING TO SAY.
BUT TELL ME WHY...

NOT ALL MEN ARE LIKE THAT.
ABOUT three of them.
I ALSO HAD A GIRL-FRIEND.
AND I DID, TOO.
FORGET HIM.
I BET HE ALREADY FOUND A NEW GIRL THAT WAS READY AT HAND.
WE'RE SEARCH-ING FOR THEM.
No we don't
DO YOU KNOW THE SUMMER TEAM, TOO?
SINCE HANA'S BOY-FRIEND IS SUPPOSED TO BE WITH THEM.
Anyway, that's all for them
JUST BECAUSE THAT'S HOW YOU TICK
...DON'T THINK THAT ALL PEOPLE ARE THE SAME,
HUH? BUT IT'LL BE DAWN BEFORE MUCH LONGER
Well said
HARU
LET'S GO.
HOW ABOUT STAYING ONE NIGHT?
I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER.
Even if we represent half of humanity
HOW YOU LUMP ALL "MEN" TOGETHER
WELL, YOU KNOW. I THINK THAT LONGER HAIR WOULD LOOK MUCH BETTER ON YOU
YES, THEY ARE.
It's more feminine

LET'S JOIN FORCES FROM NOW ON.
IT WAS HARD FOR ALL OF US, RIGHT?
We wanted to meet you.
We were seeing this for you.
LET'S WORK TOGETHER
IT WON'T

SO WE CAN'T SHARE OUR FOOD WITH YOU
BUT WE'RE AS POOR AS CHURCH MICE.
You can drink from that water over there.

AND, BRING SOME PRESENTS, OKAY?
PLEASE FEED YOUR-SELVES.

MAY I
COME WITH YOU?

BRING MUSSELS AND SEAWEED
BE CARE-FUL,
AKANE

THE TIDE IS AT ITS HIGHEST,
SO I'LL BE ON MY WAY NOW
RYUSEI-KUN,
I'LL BE LIKE THAT I GUESS..

WELL, HOW RUDE.
YOU REPRESENT TEAM SPRING SUGURONO HANA
NO WORRIES
IF YOU.
chuckle
CAN HOLD YOUR BREATH LONG ENOUGH
DON'T LET HER MAKE A FOOL OF YOU!
Splish
Splish
Splish
SPLASH
ALL RIGHT
Hah
Fwoo
It's a bit cold.
Hah
Gawd, it sound bracing!
Splash
BUT NOW IT CAN BE DONE
OKAY, LATER
HUH?
THERE'S AN OVERHANGING CLIFF IN THIS AREA THAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO GET DOWN—
WHEN THE TIDE IS LOW

GLUB
Blubb
I CAN'T...
DO IT
WHAT IS THIS...?
A PARKING GARAGE?!
IS THIS...
HUH?

IT'S COVERED WITH MUD.
BUT IT'S A PARKING GARAGE!
IF I TRIED...
I BET
TO TOUCH THAT CAR,
IT WOULD FEEL LIKE SEAWEED, TOO
THERE AREN'T ANY THINGS LEFT THAT ARE STILL THE SAME.
THE SAME PEOPLE, EITHER...
I KNOW THAT...
I KNOW IT, BUT STILL...

I'M FROM AN OLD DIVER'S FAMILY
I SEE
I UNDER-ESTI-MATED YOU
splash
splash
That's not fair
TEE HEE
AMAZ-ING!
I'M SORRY, I COULDN'T DO IT
HOW DID IT GO?
Splash
DOES IT LEAD SOME-WHERE?
Splash
Splash
THE CAVE KEEPS GOING ON THE OTHER SIDE, TOO
BUT
WE'RE SHORT ON FOOD
WE'LL HAVE TO GO THERE SOONER OR LATER.
SO, IN ORDER TO WIDEN OUR RANGE,
BUT
YOU CAN'T PASS OVER WHEN THE TIDE IS LOW,
I HAVEN'T GONE THERE YET
AND SWIMMING THERE IS DANGER-OUS
splash
splash
FOR SOME REASON, THERE'S A FAINT LIGHT DEEP INSIDE

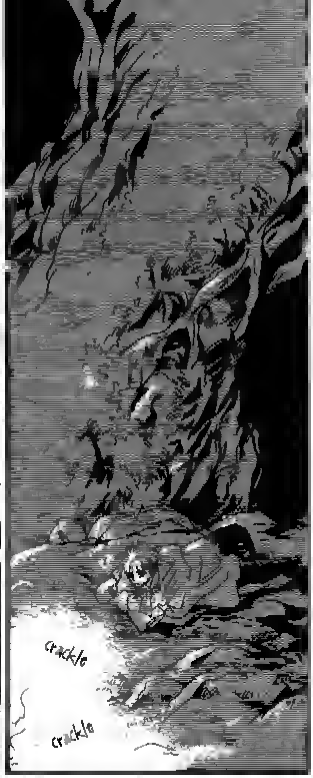
HMPH
IT WAS
SO COOL
DON'T WORRY, HANA-SAN
WELCOME BACK
...?
HOW DID IT GO, TEAM SPRING?
A JOURNEY IS OUT OF THE QUESTION AT THE MOMENT
THAT TAKES PRIORITY
WE NEED TO FIND A PLACE TO SETTLE DOWN
Splish
IF THERE'S NOTHING LEFT HERE
Splash
Ash probably won't fall there
WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US TO KANTO ON OUR RAFT?
Woof
Big catch
THIS SHOULD BE MORE THAN ENOUGH AS A PRESENT, I DARE SAY.
Woof
Big catch
crackle
crackle
YOU'RE GREAT!
THANK YOU!!
Amazing!
Uuh...
No way!

HARU, YOU NEED TO GO TO THE BATHROOM?
EXCUSE ME
BE CAREFUL.

NO

splash
splash

ARE THEY..
DIS-CUSSING SOME-THING...?

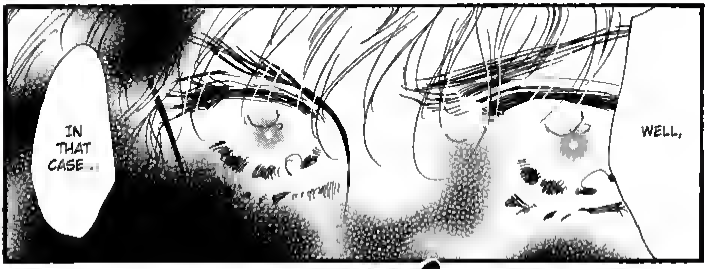

crackle
crackle

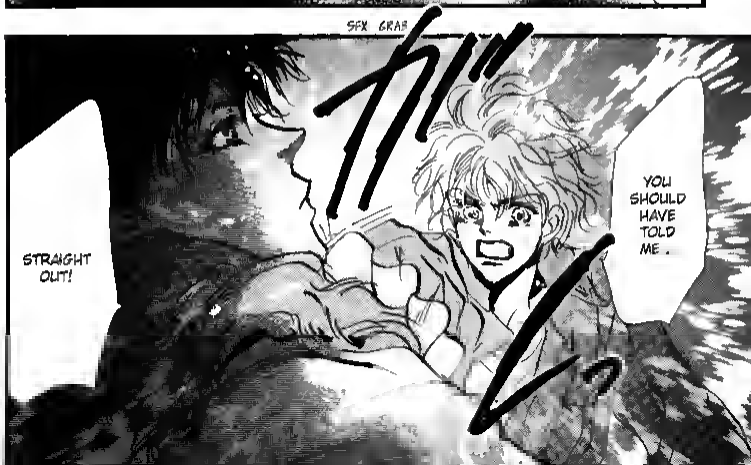
MPH?!
EVEN THOUGH THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE ...
I CAN HEAR IT AFTER ALL.
AT NIGHT IT'S LOUD AND CLEAR.

YOU'VE GOT A BOAT, RIGHT?
HUH?
SO YOU CAN TAKE THAT.
THERE'S A PLACE I WANT YOU TO GO TO BEFORE THE TIDE IS OUT
Fretful on waking.
UH?
WAKE UP,
MISS TEAM SPRING
WHERE TO?
...?
HANA-SAN,
HIM...?
WHERE IS HARU?
Huh?
WE'LL RETURN HIM UNHARMED
IF YOU GO THERE FOR US,

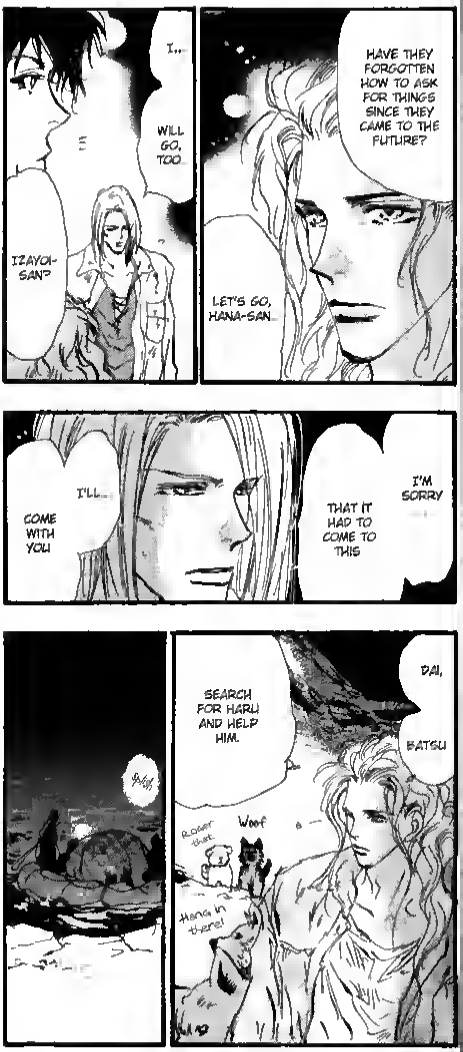
HARU?!
He went to the bathroom.
HUH?! WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?
WE'RE TAKING CHARGE OF HIM FOR A WHILE.
WE WON'T HARM HIM.
SO MAYBE YOU COULD CROSS THE WATER BY BOAT,
AND GO INTO THAT CAVE—
AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PARKING GARAGE FOR US
I DON'T GET YOU.
IF YOU NEED A BOAT,
WE'LL LEND IT TO YOU
NO, WE WANT YOU TO GO
THAT PLACE IS KIND OF CREEPY
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS,
BUT YOU SEE, AKANE...
CAN SEE GHOSTS AND THE LIKE
I'M NOT SURE IF IT'S A GHOST,
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING SCARY THERE.

ACTUALLY, I THINK IT MIGHT BE BETTER NOT TO GO,
BUT WE NEED EQUIPMENT,
AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY FOOD LEFT
IF IT'S SCARY
IF THERE ARE USEFUL THINGS THERE, IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE.
WE DON'T HAVE MANY CHOICES LEFT...
BUT TO GO THERE.

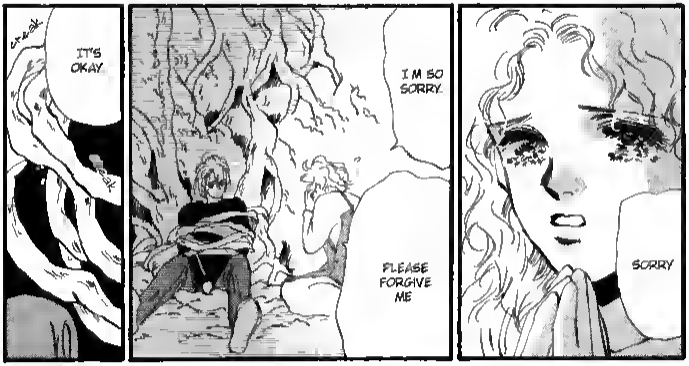

WELL,
IN THAT CASE..

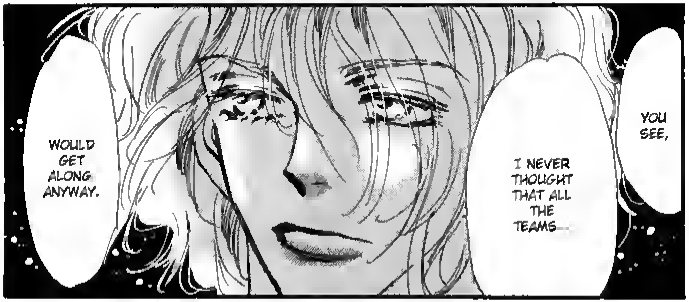

SFX GRAB
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME.
STRAIGHT OUT!

I WOULD HAVE GONE,
EVEN WITHOUT ALL THIS!
I WANT TO LEARN EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS WORLD...
SO I WOULD GO ANYWHERE!
I'D HAVE HELPED YOU...
WITH ANYTHING !!
EVEN WITHOUT YOU DOING THIS!
PATHETIC!


I...
WILL GO, TOO
IZAYOI-SAN?
HAVE THEY FORGOTTEN HOW TO ASK FOR THINGS SINCE THEY CAME TO THE FUTURE?
LET'S GO, HANA-SAN.
I'M SORRY
THAT IT HAD TO COME TO THIS
I'LL
COME WITH YOU
DAI,
BATSU
SEARCH FOR HARU AND HELP HIM.
Woof
Hang in there!
ALL TEAMS
ARE IN THE SAME PREDICAMENT.
THEN,
SO I THOUGHT WE'D GET ALONG.
PLEASE DO IT.

SPLASH
HARU IS VERY NAIVE
IN A WAY
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIM,
YOU'LL BE SORRY
HURRY UP
THERE ARE DANGEROUS THINGS IN THE WATER.
SO BE CAREFUL
THE TIDE IS GOING OUT.
BUT I...
HAVE DECIDED ...
TO DO ANYTHING
FOR KURUMI'S AND OUR FUTURE.
AKANE?
DO YOU THINK THAT I'M CRUEL
RYUSEI-KUN.

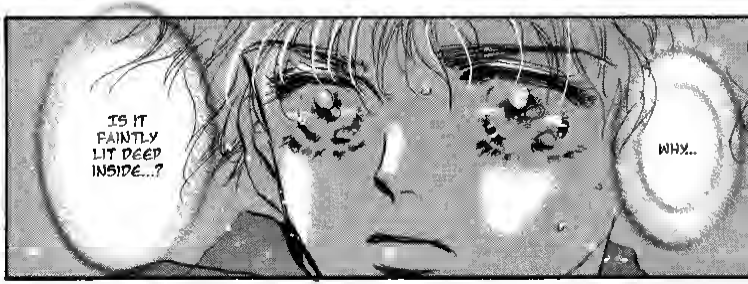

crash
IT'S OKAY.
I'M SO SORRY.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME
SORRY


WOULD GET ALONG ANYWAY.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT ALL THE TEAMS...
YOU SEE,

PLEASE DON'T LUMP US ALL TOGETHER
There is is
THAT'S THE WAY PEOPLE ARE
IF TWO PEOPLE ARE TOGETHER, THEY FIGHT
IF IT'S A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE, THERE WILL BE WAR, I GUESS

IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
IT'S MY FAULT.
SPARK-LING
splash
splash
IT'S KIND OF
SOUND?
THAT SOUND
THAT'S CONTINU-OUSLY BEING CARRIED OVER
FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PARKING GARAGE
BUT SAY,
DON'T YOU GUYS NOTICE THAT SOUND?
THEY BURN
DON'T TOUCH THEM WITH YOUR BARE HANDS
UH

I'M SURE THAT THIS UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL JUST KEEPS GOING.
I DON'T THINK THAT THERE'S ANYTHING SPECIAL.


IS IT FAINTLY LIT DEEP INSIDE...?
WHY...

I KEEP HEARING A SOUND.
A MACHINE IS RUNNING SOMEWHERE.
THE SOUND OF AN ENGINE.

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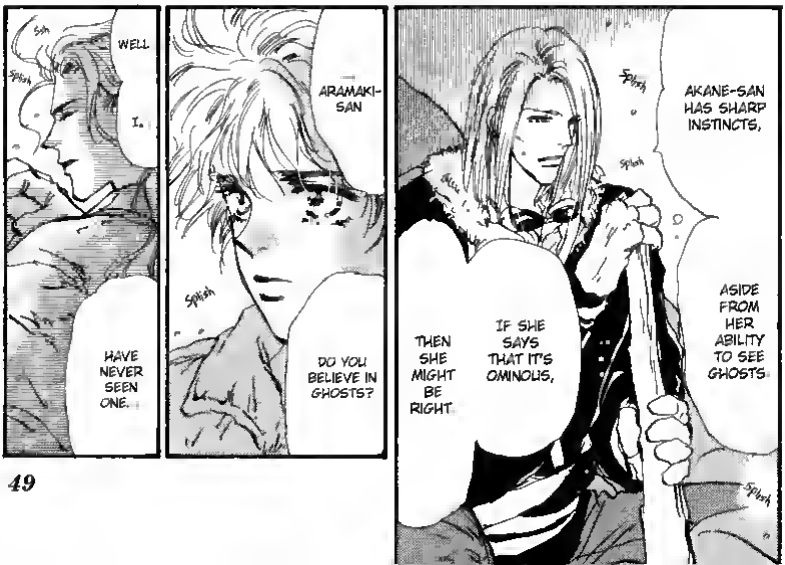
THE SMELL OF THE OCEAN OR MUD
I DON'T DISLIKE...
Splish
Splish
IT LOOKS A BIT LIKE THE CAVERN AT THE SEASIDE.
WATCH YOUR STEP AND THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD
BE CAREFUL.
WHEN I WAS LITTLE I WENT ON EXPEDITIONS.
Bump
Excited
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO MUCH.
Maybe just a little
THOUGH, THAT ENDED SHORTLY AFTER
Ashes Chapter 3 【— The Forest is Alive —】

THEY INSIST THAT THERE IS SOMETHING AT THE END OF THIS CAVERN, DON'T THEY?
Ashes Chapter 3
[— The Forest is Alive —]

CAN'T YOU HEAR IT?
IT SOUNDS LIKE AN ENGINE.
A MACHINE IS RUNNING SOMEWHERE
I WONDER WHY I HAVE SUCH AN OMINOUS FEELING ABOUT IT.
THERE IS SOMETHING OVER THERE. SOMETHING DREADFUL—
IF THEY DON'T COME BACK...
Sah
WELL, THOSE GUYS ARE GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT FOR US.
WE'LL KNOW THAT IT'S DANGEROUS

AND WENT INTO THE HUGE CAVERN.
WE TOOK OUR BOAT...

WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE OF SOME BIOLUMINESCENT CREATURES.
THAT IT WAS DIMLY VISIBLE DEEP IN THERE...


Sh
Splish
WELL
I.
HAVE NEVER SEEN ONE.
ARAMAKI-SAN
Splish
DO YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS?
Splash
AKANE-SAN HAS SHARP INSTINCTS,
ASIDE FROM HER ABILITY TO SEE GHOSTS.
IF SHE SAYS THAT IT'S OMINOUS,
THEN SHE MIGHT BE RIGHT.
Splash
Splash
Splash

THE PEOPLE I PRAYED TO SEE ONCE MORE, EVEN AS GHOSTS..
NEVER SHOWED UP, YOU SEE
BUT MY DOGS CAN SEE THINGS THAT I CAN'T
Well, yes.
SO MAYBE I'M JUST INSENSITIVE
... I'VE ...
You aren't insensitive.
NEVER SEEN ONE, EITHER.
BUT IN THE MOUNTAINS, IN THE FOREST,
IN OLD TREES, IN WHISPERING WATERFALLS..
OR IN WATER DROPS ON A SPIDER'S WEB..
AT DAYBREAK, IN THE MORNING MIST,
THAT'S USUALLY THE CASE
YOU FEEL SOMETHING MAJESTIC..

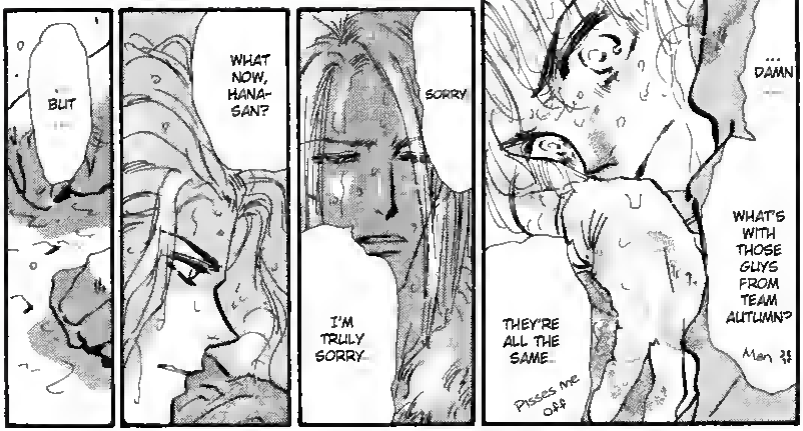
"THE FOREST IS ALIVE".
"Plish
splish
YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I MEANT
LIKE THERE ARE TWELVE FOREST SPIRITS,
ONE FOR EVERY MONTH.
MY FATHER TOLD ME TO CHERISH THAT FEELING.
THIS PLACE ..
SEEMS TO BE A LITTLE LIKE THAT.
I SEE ...
splish
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT,
SO I WANT TO CHECK OUT WHAT'S BACK THERE
HUH?

SWISH
slosh
HANA-SAN?!
WHA?!

!!
THUD THUD
WOAH!

SPLASH
Shit!
splash
splash
OW!
Splash
bubble
WATCH OUT!
DON'T TOUCH THEM!
WE'LL TAKE YOUR BOAT.
THERE ARE SOME GOODS OR SOMETHING BACK THERE, I SUPPOSE?
SO, WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THEM, AS WELL.
KARITA,
YOU STAY HERE.
YES, MA'AM.

WAIT
BE...
AKIRA! RAN-SAN!
BE CARE-FUL!
splash
WHERE IS ARAMAKI-SAN?!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I...
CAN'T SWIM.
cough
cough
cough
DID THOSE THINGS STING YOU?!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, HANA-SAN?
cough
cough
It feels numb like when you bang your elbow.
I GOT WELTS.
cough
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SWIM IN THERE.
Plus, I can't swim.
Cring
Huff
Huff
This place too
THERE'S LIGHT BACK THERE.
THERE'S ANOTHER CAVERN OVER HERE
IT'S DRY, SO I GUESS THE WATER DOESN'T REACH THERE.


BUT
WHAT NOW, HANA-SAN?
SORRY
I'M TRULY SORRY
... DAMN
WHAT'S WITH THOSE GUYS FROM TEAM AUTUMN?
THEY'RE ALL THE SAME...
Pisses me off
Man

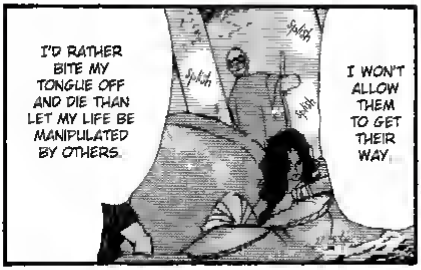
LET'S MOVE ON
THANKS TO THAT, I'M NOT AS AFRAID.

IT'LL BECOME EVEN SCARIER.
YOU WERE ABOUT TO SAY SOMETHING, RIGHT?
AR. MUKI-SAN,
IF WE STAY IN THIS WORLD WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT IT,
I wonder what this cavern is
YOU MEAN THE THING THAT I CAN'T GET OUT OF MY MIND?

WHEN I SAW THAT SUBWAY STATION TODAY,
I NOTICED SOMETHING
I'M CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT WE'LL FIND AT THE END OF THIS CAVERN.
YOU NOTICED SOMETHING?
Crunch
Crunch
Step
Step
I'LL TELL YOU ONCE I KNOW FOR SURE
YOU'RE A CAREFUL PERSON, ARAMAKI-SAN
Like Arashi
AH, I'M SORRY.
Are you all right?
IZAYOI-SAN, YOU DO NOTHING BUT APOLOGIZE
I'M SORRY
IF I WAS MORE DETERMINED ...
WHEN WE CAME HERE THREE YEARS AGO,
I THINK IT WOULDN'T HAVE COME TO THIS
YOU BUILT THAT NICE VILLAGE, DIDN'T YOU?
All of you together Sounds nice.
Step
Step
THAT WAS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF AKIRA AND RAN-SAN
BUT IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A REIGN OF TERROR
WHAT ...?
YOU CAME HERE
three years ago?

WE LIVED A HOPELESS EXISTENCE
BUT WHEN THE ASH STARTED TO FALL,
OUR SITUATION CHANGED.
THEY FORCED STRICT RULES AND WORKLOADS ON US,
AND CONTROLLED US BY MAKING US TAKE DRUG-LIKE MEDICINE.
KURUMI-SAN GOT PREGNANT.
HE SAYS THAT HE CAN HEAR IT.
HEY, KARITA.
I BROUGHT YOU SOME FOOD.
ARE YOU DOING WELL?
YES.
KURUMI-CHAN.
BUT HE HAS VERY ACCURATE EARS.
AN ENGINE?!
NO WAY.
I don't hear anything like that.

NO WAY!
To hell with them!
What is Izayoi-san doing?
IF THERE REALLY IS STUFF THERE,
THEY'LL GRAB EVERY-THING!
AKIRA AND THE OTHERS CAPTURED THE BOAT...
BUT MORE IMPOR-TANTLY,
AND HEADED INTO THE CAVERN WITH IT.
I MANAGED.
THANKS, AS USUAL DID AKIRA AND THE OTHERS NOTICE ANYTHING?
Don't worry.
THE TIDE'S ALREADY STARTED TO EBB.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, RYUSEI.
SHOULD WE FOLLOW THEM?
Even if it's scary
THOSE TWO..
WHO SENT HIS HERE.
BEAR A DEEP-ROOTED HATRED TOWARDS THE PEOPLE...
BECAUSE...
THEY TOLD HER TO NOT HAVE THE BABY.
Step
Step
BUT YOU STILL SPLIT UP?
WHY?
AH, THAT'S WHY...
PREGNANT...?
A JOURNEY IS OUT OF THE QUESTION AT THE MOMENT


I'D RATHER BITE MY TONGUE OFF AND DIE THAN LET MY LIFE BE MANIPULATED BY OTHERS.
I WON'T ALLOW THEM TO GET THEIR WAY.
splish
splish
splish

CHILDREN...
ARE JUST WHAT THOSE GUYS WANT.

DEAR RAN,
THE TIDE IS EBBING.
splish
splish

THAT COULD HAPPEN TO ANY ONE OF US.
A PREG-NANCY
IF WE FOLLOW THEM,
WE'LL WIND UP SOME-WHERE, I GUESS
THESE ARE SUBWAY RAILS.
HEH
LET'S GO, SAKUYA
squish squish
TO ME.
EVEN ...
IF YOU NEED A DOCTOR,
YOU CAN VISIT FUJIKO-CHAN
LET'S TALK THINGS OUT
ONCE WE GET BACK,
I WANT TO HELP YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN.
AND HE'S HER BOY-FRIEND?!
THAT MAKES THE SITUATION EVEN MORE HOPELESS
THAT GIRL
IS FAINT-HEARTED I GUESS

OH,
LOOK AT THIS
IF YOU PAID ATTENTION,
YOU COULD TELL THE LIGHT WAS GETTING MUCH BRIGHTER.
WOOF!
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
THE LIGHT...
THIS ...
ISN'T GOING TO MOVE, IS IT?
PROBABLY NOT.
SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

WHAT IS THIS?!
THERE'S ELECTRICITY HERE!
THE THING WE SQUEEZED THROUGH
WAS A VENTILATION FAN.
YOU COULD HEAR WATER RUNNING
THE ROOM WAS LIT BRIGHTLY WITH ELECTRIC LAMPS

THE FOREST
REALLY IS ALIVE, ISN'T IT?
But it doesn't look cared for.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?!
DOES THIS MEAN THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE?!

A FIELD ?!
A FIELD.
THIS ...
MIGHT BE.

HANA-SAN,
THAT SUBWAY STATION WAS STRANGE, WASN'T IT?
THERE WASN'T A STATION NAME WRITTEN ANYWHERE.
RIGHT
THERE WAS ONE MORE STRANGE THING... DID YOU NOTICE?
THERE ...
WEREN'T ANY BRAILLE FLOOR TILES*.
*Walkways with raised bumps for the blind, common in public areas in Japan.
...!!
THAT MEANS ...
THAT MEANS ...
THAT IT ISN'T A COMMON FACILITY.
I THINK...
THAT THIS IS AN UNDERGROUND SHELTER.

IT'S A TERMINAL...
RYU...?
WHAT'S THIS?
OR BAR?
I CAN'T READ IT.
IS IT THE NAME OF THE STATION?
OH! A DIRECTORY.
WIPE
WIPE
LET'S SEE.
WHERE ARE WE NOW?
THAT...
IS POS-SIBLE
AKIRA.
YEAH.
IT'S DREARY, ISN'T IT? THERE AREN'T ANY ADVERTISE-MENTS OR ANYTHING EITHER...

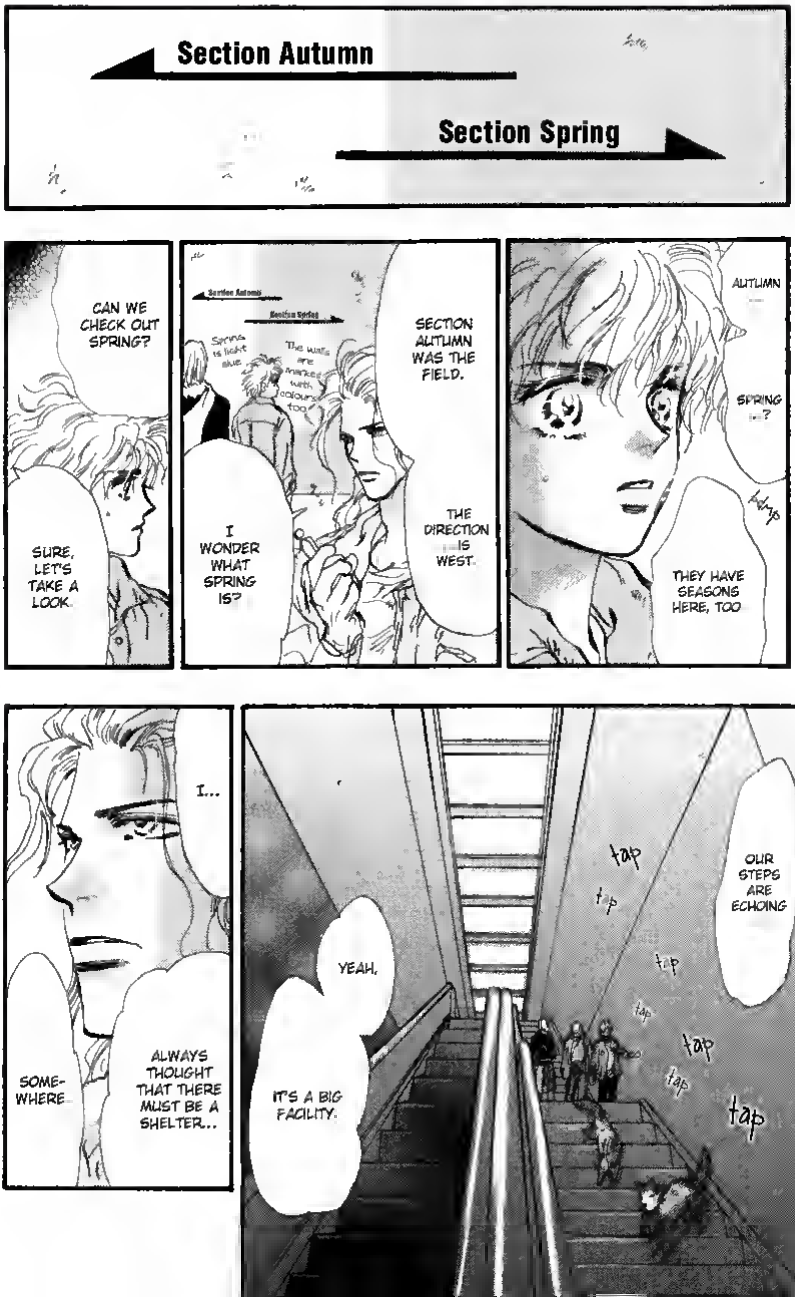
"SECTION SUMMER"...?
Section Summer
Control Room
Central Hall
IF YOU CLIMB UP HERE,
YOU'LL GET TO THE CONTROL ROOM.
I'D GUESS
BUT STILL, IT CAN ONLY FEED A LIMITED NUMBER OF PEOPLE.
YEAH
rustle
rustle
crack
IT'S VAST, ISN'T IT...?
IF THIS IS A SHELTER,
THEN WHERE ARE THE PEOPLE?!
THE FOREST IS ALIVE...
WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE?!
I WONDER...
IF THEY EVOLVED ON THEIR OWN...
THESE
USED TO BE RICE PLANTS AND VEGE-TABLES...
I GUESS...
I'M IN ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE,
AND YET I FEEL PRETTY UNCOM-FORTABLE.

IT WON'T OPEN, HUH. .?
IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET IN?
Scratch
Scratch
OVER THERE!
A DOOR!
IF IT SURVIVED A NATURAL DISASTER AND AN ICE AGE IN ONE PIECE,
IT PROBABLY USES A GEOTHERMAL ENERGY GENERATOR IN A SAFE LOCATION...
OR HYDRO-POWER.
IT CAN POWER ITSELF.
IS IT NUCLEAR ENERGY?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, AKIRA?
THERE'S ELECTRICITY HERE.
BEEP
WHAT A SURPRISE

OUR GOOD OLD WORLD.
It's no smoking, I guess
hep
IF WE FIND A COMPUTER SOMEWHERE,
WE CAN BOOT IT UP.
RATTLE
IT'S OPEN
click
IT ONLY ROSE ONE TURN
OH, Well
WE COULD ALSO CONSIDER LIVING HERE.
IF THERE'S STUFF LEFT HERE...
AND THE BUILDINGS AREN'T DAMAGED TOO MUCH,
AND IT'S NICE AND DRY
THE AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM IS WORKING,
Terminal No 1
Section Summer
Authorized Personnel Only

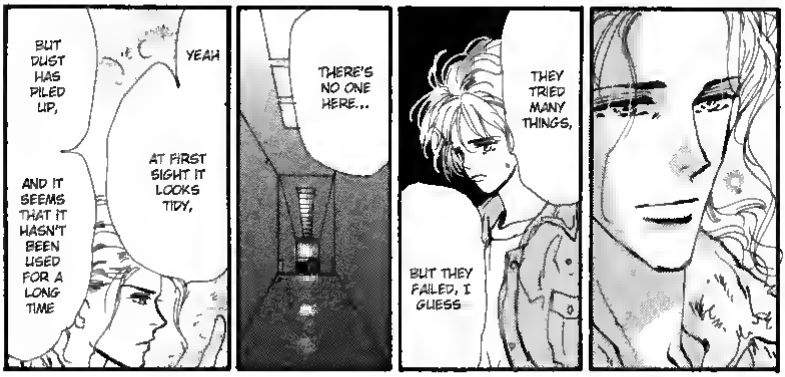
Are they watching us from somewhere?
DOES THAT MEAN THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE?
THAT'S POSSIBLE
HUH ?!
THE DOOR
OPENED?!
clack
growl
growl
UH!
flash
flash
flash
IT'S DARK IN HERE
FUBUKI, MITSURU-SAN,
PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN
Woof

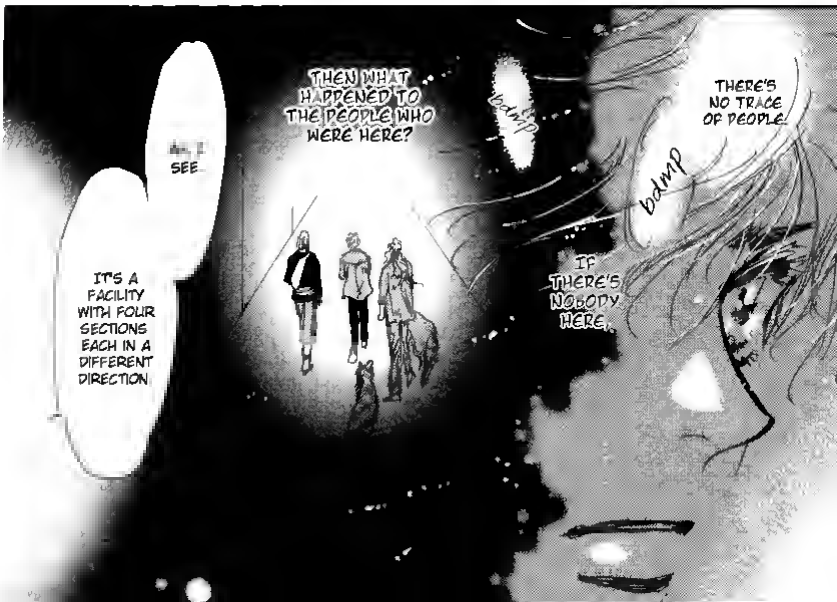
THE LIGHT!
ALMOST EVERY-THING IS PHYSI-CALLY DISCON-NECTED.
NEITHER WILL THE CAMERAS
THE ELEVA-TORS WON'T WORK.
I CAN ONLY RESTORE ONE END OF THE LINE.
THE DOORS AND LIGHTS.
TO SAVE POWER I GUESS.
click
click
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S DISGUST-ING
DATA TRANSFER ISN'T POSSIBLE, EITHER.
THE FOLDERS ARE EMPTY, AS WELL.
There must be records. Search for files.
CAN YOU BRING UP A COMPLETE MAP?


Section Autumn
Section Spring
CAN WE CHECK OUT SPRING?
SURE, LET'S TAKE A LOOK.
Section Autumn
Section Spring
Spring is light blue.
The walls are marked with colour, too.
I WONDER WHAT SPRING IS?
SECTION AUTUMN WAS THE FIELD.
THE DIRECTION IS WEST.
AUTUMN
SPRING ...?
hmm
THEY HAVE SEASONS HERE, TOO
I...
SOME-WHERE...
ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THERE MUST BE A SHELTER...
YEAH.
IT'S A BIG FACILITY.
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
OUR STEPS ARE ECHOING

NOT ABOUT AN UNDER-GROUND SHELTER, ANYWAY...
BUT...
IZAYOI-SAN,
SINCE YOU'RE A GUIDE, DID YOU EVER HEAR ABOUT A SHELTER?
I COULDN'T SEARCH IN THE NORTH OR EAST, THOUGH...
tap
tap
!
THEY SAID THAT PROJECT "7 SEEDS"
WAS ACTUALLY AN EXPERI-MENTAL LAST MEASURE...
AND THAT THEY'D TRY MANY OTHER MEANS...
BEFORE IT...
BUT I WASN'T REALLY PREPARED
DID YOU VOLUNTEER?
YOU BRAVELY PARTICIPATED KNOWING THAT IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT
YEAH...
I WAS SCARED TO DEATH THOUGH...
...I'M SURE THEY TRIED TO BREAK UP THE METE-ORITE WITH A MISSILE...
OR SOME-THING
THAT'S WHY I EXPECTED THAT THERE'D BE
A SHELTER.

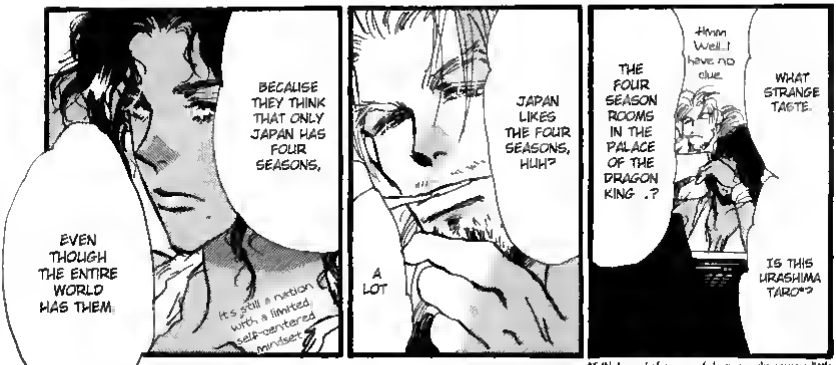
TO HELP THE TEAM.
I HONESTLY WISH...
BUT NOW...


BUT DUST HAS PILED UP,
YEAH
AT FIRST SIGHT IT LOOKS TIDY,
AND IT SEEMS THAT IT HASN'T BEEN USED FOR A LONG TIME
THERE'S NO ONE HERE...
THEY TRIED MANY THINGS,
BUT THEY FAILED, I GUESS


AH, I SEE.
IT'S A FACILITY WITH FOUR SECTIONS EACH IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION
THEN WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEOPLE WHO WERE HERE?
bump
THERE'S NO TRACE OF PEOPLE.
bump
IF THERE'S NOBODY HERE,

HERE IN THE SOUTH IS SECTION SUMMER.
THIS IS THE MAIN CONTROL ROOM.
IN THE WESTERN SECTION, AUTUMN, ARE THE FIELDS AND LIVESTOCK.
IN THE EASTERN SECTION, SPRING, ARE THE LIVING QUARTERS
IN THE NORTHERN SECTION, WINTER, IS THE STORE-HOUSE

*Ryugu means "Dragon's Palace"


WHAT STRANGE TASTE.
Hmm Well..! have no clue.
THE FOUR SEASON ROOMS IN THE PALACE OF THE DRAGON KING .?
IS THIS URASHIMA TARO*?
JAPAN LIKES THE FOUR SEASONS, HUH?
A LOT
BECAUSE THEY THINK THAT ONLY JAPAN HAS FOUR SEASONS,
EVEN THOUGH THE ENTIRE WORLD HAS THEM.
It's still a nation with a limited self-centered mindset

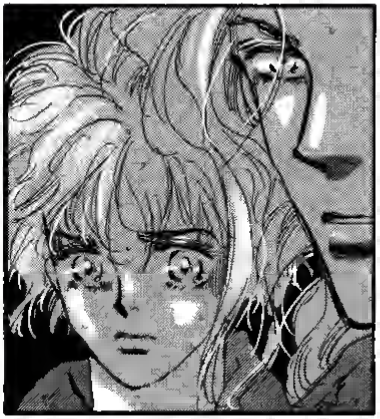
*T/N. Legend of a young fisherman who saves a little turtle that turns out to be the sea god's daughter (1918)

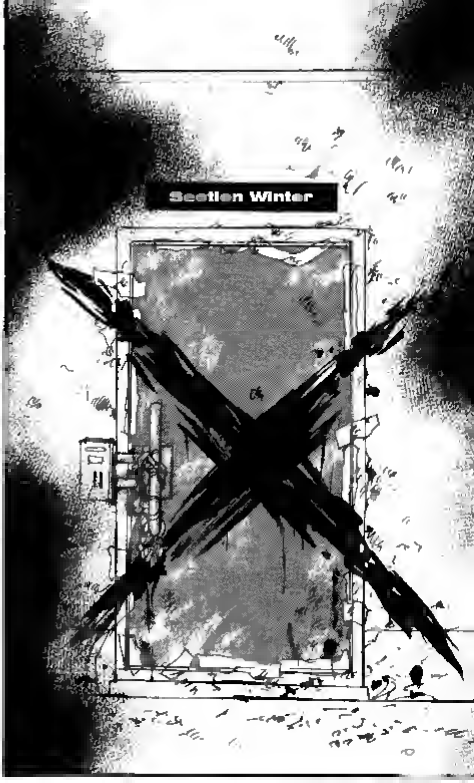
THE PEOPLE...
IS THE LIVING QUARTERS...
SPRING...
bdmp
bdmp
bdmp
Section Spring
● Living Area A
● Living Area B
● Living Area C
THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING, IF WE'RE LUCKY
OKAY, LET'S CHECK OUT THE WINTER STOREHOUSE
ARE...
THE PEOPLE..
DING DONG
DING
DONG
Saturday night is finally here!
Now let me announce tonight's program.
We have a lot for you tonight.

I wonder who the surprise guest will be?
At nine PM, Miki-Mari is going to perform her moving solo concert
If you have drink vouchers, come to hall A!
The opening performers are the Pete Brothers, as usual
Make sure to watch their new show
Okay
ARAMAKI-SAN.
BUMP
Today's movie at 6 PM
is "Gone with the Wind", part 1!
Come on in!
hurry
I'M NOT AFRAID OF GHOSTS
IF A HORDE OF ZOMBIES WERE TO SHOW UP NOW,
The good old times!
Crackle
SUT
Saturday Night Fever!
We look forward to seeing you
I THINK I'D REALLY LOSE IT
YaHOO!

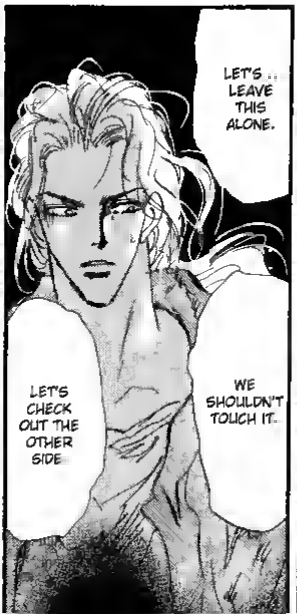
SILE NCE
stomp
stomp
stomp
CLACK

IT SEEMS THAT EVERYONE LEFT THIS PLACE LONG AGO.
I WONDER IF THEY ABANDONED IT AND WENT OUTSIDE.
bam
THERE'S NOBODY HERE...
bam
CLACK
CLACK
BUT THAT THERE ISN'T ANYBODY HERE IS SCARY TOO.
IT'D BE SCARY IF THERE WERE BODIES AND BONES LYING AROUND
OUTSIDE ...?
Section Win
LOOK AT THIS
HANA-SAN,
ARASHI
ARASHI
YOU ASKED ME IF THERE WAS SOME-THING I WAS AFRAID OF
DON'T LAUGH, ARASHI!
I WONDER IF THEY FOUND NEW SHELTER SOME-WHERE?
BUT I HAVE THE FEELING THAT THINGS DIDN'T TURN OUT SO WELL.




Section Winter

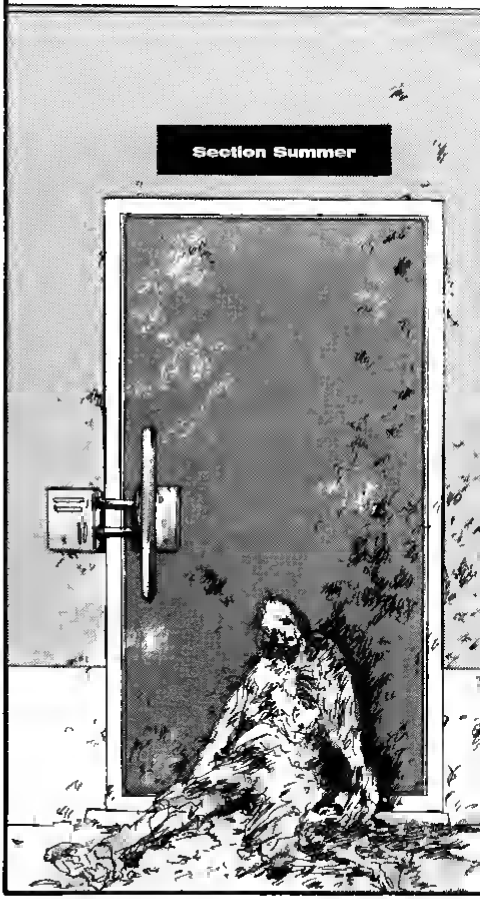
whine


LET'S .. LEAVE THIS ALONE.
WE SHOULDN'T TOUCH IT.
LET'S CHECK OUT THE OTHER SIDE

GOOSE-BUMPS ALL OVER.
I HAVE ...
MY TEETH ARE CHATTER-ING.
EVEN THOUGH IT ISN'T COLD.
ARAMAKI-SAN. .
huff
Section Summ
huff
LET'S GO BACK.
LET'S GO BACK ALREADY.
huff
huff
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
tap
TO THE SURFACE.
tap
tap

I FEEL LIKE CRYING, TOO
IS IT OKAY TO CRY?
WAIT A SEC.

HE'S HOLDING SOMETHING IN HIS HAND...


Section Summer

HIS DIARY
THIS
WAS PROBABLY

7Seeds
Scanned by Hoowee
Translated by Yuriko
Edited by Grassy
QC by [illegible] & Yuriko
Storm in Heaven
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Ashes Chapter 4

【 —The Door to Summer— 】

THE WRITING HAS FADED, TOO...
rustle
rustle
THE PAPER IS BRITTLE.
Looks like it would crumble instead of rip
WERE HARD TO MAKE OUT TOWARDS THE END.
THE CHARAC-TERS...
I'm done for, I guess.

"I'VE NEVER KEPT A DIARY,"
"I HIT THE JACKPOT."
THE FIRST ENTRY...
WE'D BEEN PUT TO SLEEP...
WAS A LITTLE AFTER...
HANA-SAN,
COULD YOU PLEASE READ IT FROM THE START?
SURE...
THAT I SHOULD LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND SO I'M RECORDING THIS...
BUT I KIND OF HAVE THE FEELING...
WE ARE THE PETE BROTHERS!
HELLO, NICE TO MEET YOU!
IF I THINK ABOUT IT NOW,
THAT DAY DECIDED MY DESTINY I GUESS.

COME ON
HEY, YOU
WELL, PETE, WON'T YOU SAY HELLO?
ACTUALLY, HE'S MY BIG BROTHER.
PETE,
WE'RE CALLED THE PETE BROTHERS
BUT THIS LITTLE GUY IS PETE.
MY NAME IS MARK
HA HA HA
What's this?
PETS ARE SO SAD THESE DAYS, ANYWAY
THEY'RE FORCED TO WEAR CLOTHES AND STUFF.
YES, YOU ARE!
NOPE.
YOU'RE A ROTTEN GUY!
WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
ARE YOU CALLING ME YOUR PET, OR WHAT?
HA HA HA
Hilari-ous
Pete's so cute.
SEE? YOU'RE TREATING ME LIKE A PET, AFTER ALL!
I CAN UNDER-STAND THE FEELINGS OF PETS ONLY TOO WELL.
SO, SHOULD I TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES?
Don't you undress me!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
clap clap
IS HE A TALENT SCOUT OR SOMETHING?
Tee hee
clap clap
I'D LOVE TO CREAM YOU, BUT MY ARMS CAN'T REACH YOU
Dam—
THAT OLD MAN COMES HERE OFTEN LATELY
HE NEVER LAUGHS
THAT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE SO SHORT.
NICE JOB.
GOOD WORK
I COULD DO WITHOUT COMING BACK!
WE'LL COME AGAIN!
HA HA-HA
You can't help but laugh
HA HA
HA HA HA
Ha Ha
I'LL DO MY VERY BEST!
Thank you Mr. Saeki.
SOON YOU'LL MAKE IT BIG!
MARK, YOU'VE ALMOST GOT IT!
YES?
THE TALENT SCOUT?!
MAYBE I'LL BE ABLE TO APPEAR ON TV IN TOKYO OR SOMETHING.
IBARAKI MARK-KUN...
FROM THE PETE BROTHERS.
WELL, SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT WEEK...

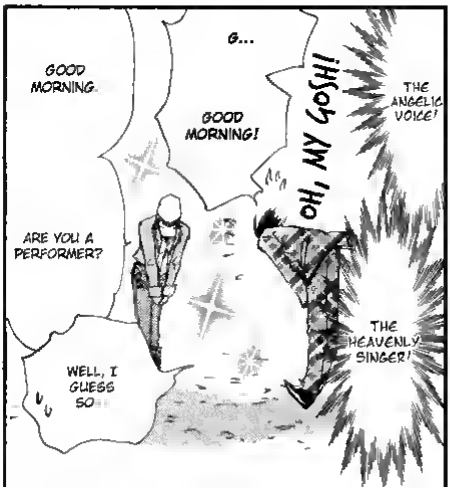
CAN YOU..
KEEP TELLING LIES...
TO THE BITTER END?
CAN YOU KEEP PERFORM-ING...
TO THE BITTER END?
HUH . ?
WHO'S TELLING LIES?
BE QUIET, PETE
I MAY LAY IT ON THICK, BUT A GOOD PERSON LIKE ME WOULD NEVER LIE...
You've never lied it on thick. But well, you don't lie.

OF COURSE..
NO MATTER WHAT THE SITUATION OR PLACE,
AT WORK I GIVE IT MY ALL
HE HE HE HE
SURELY NOT AT OUR PARENT'S FUNERAL!
OUR PARENTS ARE LONG GONE
IT'S A BIT FAR FROM HERE..
THEN I'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU A JOB
Really?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
BUT I'LL CONVINCE MY OFFICE TO HIRE YOU.

COME TO THIS PLACE ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF NEXT MONTH.
IF YOU TELL THEM MY NAME, THEY'LL LET YOU IN.
YES SIR!
"THAT OLD MAN ONLY INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS TAKASHI."
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
AH... HE HAS THE SAME NAME AS MY FATHER.
By chance
NO, IT DOESN'T MATTER
THE PLACE I'D BEEN APPOINTED TO WAS LOCATED BETWEEN OSAKA AND TOKYO.
IT'S HILLY.
IS IT A RESIDENTIAL AREA?
He only has this suit.
But a used car from a friend.
EXCUSE ME.
Is this the right place?
A MAN CALLED TAKASHI ASKED ME TO COME HERE.
MY NAME IS IBARAKI
AH, YES
OH, I'M SORRY. ME, TOO
Bam

YES, IBARAKI MARK-SAN AND MIKI MARIA-SAN, RIGHT?
I THINK I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE.

We have them for left and right
PLEASE PUT THESE ON YOUR EARS
I HAVE ORDERS FROM TAKASHI-SAN TO LET YOU IN

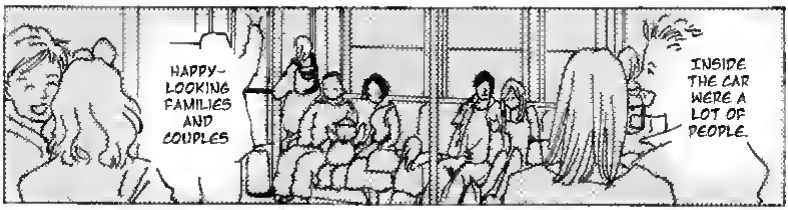

G...
GOOD MORNING.
GOOD MORNING!
OH, MY GOSH!
THE ANGELIC VOICE!
ARE YOU A PERFORMER?
THE HEAVENLY SINGER!
WELL, I GUESS SO...

MIKI MARIA?!
MIKI-MARI?!
HUH?

There's only one station,
so you can get off when it stops.

TO THINK THAT THERE'S A SUBWAY AT A PLACE LIKE THIS
OH,
I HARDLY EVER RIDE ONE.

Welcome, Mark and Maria-san.
Please park your cars in the parking garage...
and get on the subway.
He's free
THE VOICE I HEARD OVER THE EARPIECE BELONGED TO TAKASHI-SAN


HAPPY-LOOKING FAMILIES AND COUPLES
INSIDE THE CAR WERE A LOT OF PEOPLE.

THEY ONLY SAID THAT IT WAS THE OPENING EVENT OF A NEW THEME PARK
SAME HERE
IT SEEMS THEY KEPT IT PRETTY SECRET

I REALLY WONDER WHAT KIND OF EVENT IT IS
nervous
I WASN'T INFORMED ABOUT IT AT ALL.

rattle
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M INCOGNITO
NOBODY RECOGNIZES YOU.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'M NOT FAMOUS AT ALL!
DON'T WORRY!

BUT STILL, THEY SAID THAT I COULD BRING MY DOG.
IT'S IN HERE.
SO,
I WAS TOLD TO COME ON MY OWN.
Hmph.
STRANGE ISN'T IT?
AND THAT EVERYTHING WOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF HERE.
BY THE WAY,
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MANAGER AND ASSIS-TANTS?!
You have those, don't you?
Oh.
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE? I HAVE ONE IN HERE, TOO...
NOW I'M A DOG?!
AMAZING.
A VEN-TRILO-QUIST!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR PERFOR-MANCE
Thank you for traveling with us
Ryugu Terminal.
PSHAA
Ryugu

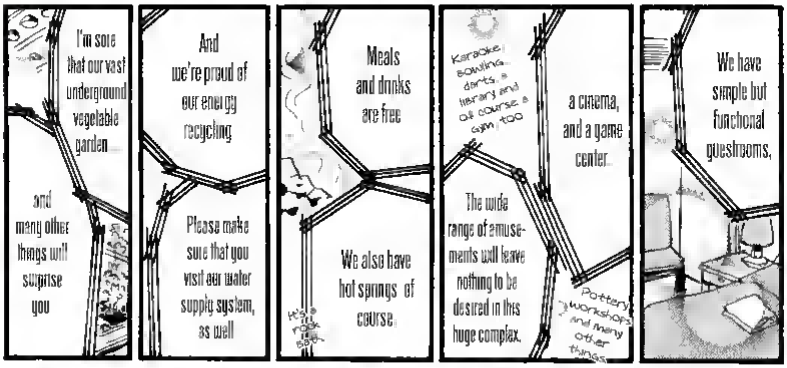
Welcome to the opening event of our subterranean wonderland!
Welcome to Ryugu.
Please enjoy these three days to the fullest!
Please check in at the central reception desk first...
HEH!
THE PALACE OF THE DRAGON KING!
IT'S INSIDE A MOUNTAIN, THOUGH
When did they build it, anyway?
Rattle
HUH? THIS...
IS KAGAMI-KUN'S VOICE...
HE'S A PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER WHO DOES EVERYTHING, FROM BUSINESSLIKE NARRATION TO RHYTHMIC DISK JOCKEYING...
On radio and in clubs.
OH.
SO HE'S PART OF THE TEAM, TOO.
Both of you, please take the elevator to your left and go down to B3.
Thank you.
GOT IT!
Common guests aren't admitted to that section.

Eh!
MR. HINO!
Waah!
IT'S MR. HINO!
TA-KERU!
TA-KKI!
Gyu
WAH
WAH
DID THEY NOTICE US?!
Gyu
Takeru-Sama
Oh! I watch all your games!
Good luck!
Wow, celebrity
HE'S A MAJOR LEAGUE
BASEBALL PLAYER.
THERE ARE LOTS OF GUESTS HERE, AREN'T THERE?

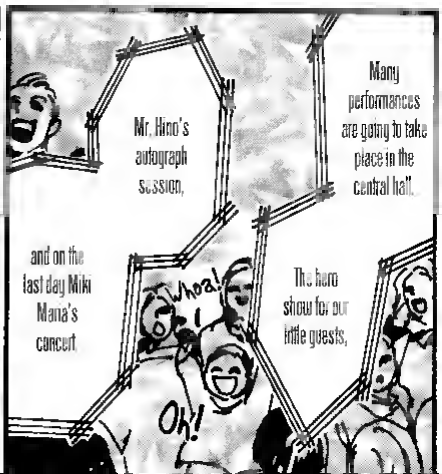
Who is Miki-Mari?
YOU DIDN'T REACT TO MIKI-MARI, THOUGH.
MR. HINO WAS HERE?!
MR. HINO ?!

Welcome to Ryugu!
to suddenly receive an invitation out of the blue,
I'm sure you were all surprised ..
THERE WERE 5000 GUESTS HERE...
AND IT WAS PRETTY BUSY.

This is our foray into utilizing the subsurface
This huge facility, which you can call the subterranean city of our dreams,
was brought to completion today.
Please fully enjoy the next three days and two nights
in these underground rooms


I'm sure that our vast underground vegetable garden...
and many other things will surprise you
And we're proud of our energy recycling
Please make sure that you visit our water supply system, as well
Meals and drinks are free
We also have hot springs, of course.
Karaoke, bowling... darts, a library and, of course, a gym, too
a cinema, and a game center.
The wide range of amusements will leave nothing to be desired in this huge complex.
Pottery workshops and many other things...
We have simple but functional guestrooms,

Oh,
I almost forget,
and I'm responsible for all your needs.
the director here
I'm Oda Michitsuna


Many performances are going to take place in the central hall...
Mr. Hino's autograph session,
and on the last day Miki Mana's concert
The hero show for our little guests,
Whoa!
Oh!

BAM
HELLO!
MARIA-SAN, LONG TIME NO SEE!
KAGAMI-KUN!
HIS VOICE SOUNDS LIKE IT'S SPEECH PRACTICE
THE DIRECTOR IS REALLY HANDSOME.
Dark and masculine.
His name sounds like it's from a historical drama.
HIS TEETH ARE BRIGHT WHITE.
I wonder where Takashi-san is.
I'M IBARAKI MARK.
I'm known as The Pete Brothers.
HE'S A VENTRILOQUIST.
AN ENTERTAINER!
NIHON
I'm Kagami the Jo-ke-ist
Hello!
KAGAMI-KUN IS A MUSICIAN AS WELL.
And a lot of other things.
NICE TO MEET YOU!
JACK OF ALL TRADES, KAGAMI NORIKAZU!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP ON MY CONCERT TOUR.
NO, I HAVE TO THANK YOU.
Thanks to you, it was a huge success.
I'M MORE POPULAR NOW.
It was a great experience.
I'M SARUWATARI SADAO.
By the way...
THIS GUY IS SARUWATARI-KUN, THE TELEVISION ENGINEER.
OH NO, I WAS JUST ON MY WAY TO THE BATHROOM.
You're the sound engineer...
KAGAMI-KUN, I TOLD YOU TO NOT FOOL AROUND.

I WANT TO SAY HELLO, TOO!
HE'S VERY CELEBRITY-LIKE.
Bathroom, here I come.
HE'S A LICENSED LAWYER, TOO
BE QUIET, PETE.
I'm a sea bream, huh?
MARIA-SAN, YOU'RE THE PRINCESS OF RYUGU FOR NOW.
EXCUSE ME
YES?
ARE YOU A PER-FORMER?
ALL RIGHT!
I'M A MANGA ARTIST
Tired
NO... A MAN CALLED TAKASHI-SAN ASKED ME TO COME HERE...
You are all chosen.
and enjoy yourselves
Please forget about your sorrows in the world above for a while...
I have your books and I watch your anime too
Me too
SAKATA TOKIDOKI! I KNOW YOU!
MIKI-MARI?!
Wow!

Well I'll come up with some thing.
Pulling Yes
cheeks
They chose the wrong people.
WE CAN'T OPEN FOR MIKI-MARI'S PERFORMANCE.
We'll wreck it
DON'T SAY THAT.
IT'S RATHER PLAIN..
I had high hopes though.
OUR ROOMS WERE IN SECTION SUMMER,
SEPARATED FROM THE GUESTS,
FOR A HOTEL.
Mr. Hua's Baseball Lesson
Professional Player
Eek!
THE GUESTS DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING
THEY CONSIDERED THEMSELVES LUCKY THAT THEY GOT INVITATIONS FOR FREE.
I wanted to watch it.
HEY, I HEARD WE CAN PROBABLY SEE A METEOR SHOWER TONIGHT, RIGHT?
There are supposed to be a lot of them, aren't there?
WHO CARES?
THIS IS FREE, YOU KNOW!
Gyaaa

RUMBLE
THE SHAKING
Morning couldn't sleep
Hi, Keiko
KEPT GOING OMINOUSLY
AN EARTH-QUAKE
SHAKE
AN EARTH-QUAKE
YOU DON'T NEED TO REPEAT IT
SHAKE
AN EARTH-QUAKE
SHAKE
RUMBLE
AT DAWN
THERE WAS AN EARTH-QUAKE.
WE'RE SAFE DOWN HERE, I GUESS.
SHAKE
And I finally fell asleep
The phone doesn't work either
SAME WITH MINE
And I wanted to watch the news
MY TV HAS NO RECEP-TION.
It's name is Tiarten
Oh is that your dog?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
SHAKE
I THOUGHT THAT IT WAS—
A STRANGE EARTH-QUAKE.

KAGAMI-KUN,
WHEN I ASKED YOU IF YOU COULD SPEAK AS THE OCCASION DEMANDS.
TO THE VERY END, NO MATTER THE SITUATION,
YOU SAID YOU COULD, DIDN'T YOU?
HUH
WE'LL SHOW HOW MATTERS STAND ON THE MONITOR OVER THERE.
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO TELL THEM?
I CAN'T DO THAT
LET'S PLAY THE NEWS BROADCAST ON THE SCREEN IN THE CENTRAL HALL.
KAGAMI-KUN, YOU'LL EXPLAIN IT TO THE GUESTS.
RUMBLE
Eek!
WE SHOULD EVACUATE!
IS IT GOING TO COLLAPSE?!
Waa!
This is a long one!
IT'S SHAKING!
RUMBLE
ALERT
LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN,
PLEASE CALM DOWN
PLEASE KEEP CALM
DURING AN EARTHQUAKE, YOU ARE MOST SECURE UNDERGROUND
Eek!
Wah!

TAKE THE HAND
AND WATCH
OF A LOVED ONE IF YOU CAN.
IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE SIT DOWN,
EVERY-BODY
WE ARE
ON THE BIG SCREEN IN THE CENTRAL HALL NOW.
GOING TO SHOW YOU THE NEWS BROADCAST THAT'S ON TV.
SHAKE
Something terrible has happened
AT FIRST I WASN'T SURE...
RUMBLE
It's a disaster...
WHAT THEY WERE SHOWING.
FLASH
WE'RE ON THE AIR.
Blah
Blah
OH.

SCREAMED AND YELLED
A WELL-KNOWN NEWSCASTER...
IT SEEMS TONIGHT.
SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT.
A METEORITE WITH A DIAMETER OF DOZENS OF KILOMETERS..
STRUCK THE CENTER OF NORTHERN AMERICA.
Next, two fell into the Pacific Ocean
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
And there were impacts in Siberia...
and the Indian Ocean.
AND IT SEEMS...
THAT IT'S STILL ONGOING
AFTER THAT, SEVERAL MORE BIG METEORITES ...
RAINED DOWN ALL OVER THE WORLD...

The high waves caused by them
have flooded not only coastal regions, but also eight percent of inland areas
Between the meteor impacts, blasts, and fires...
many cities have been razed to the ground
RUMBLE
Brah
Brah
HUH?
WHAT?
IS HE TALKING ABOUT A METEOR SHOWER?
AGAINST THE SURGING WAVES, EITHER.
NONE OF THE JAPANESE ISLANDS STAND A CHANCE...
I FINALLY REALIZED WHAT I WAS SEEING ON THE SCREEN
AT THAT MOMENT
Huh?!
Japan
will be destroyed in a few hours...
Several inactive volcanoes have already started to become active.
Mt. Fuji has just erupted, as well.

Something terrible has happened.
It's a disaster...

I just hope that the helicopter taking this footage...
will be able to land somewhere
I'm not sure how long we will be able to broadcast
I just hope
The satellites aren't working
Communication lines are about to collapse, as well

I THOUGHT
THAT IT MUST BE FAKE
clench

I WANT TO CONTACT SOMEONE OUTSIDE.
I WANT TO CALL MY FAMILY
BLAH
BLAH
I'M GOING HOME!
I'M LEAVING!
Where's the exit?
buzz
buzz
THE GOVERNMENT AND SCIENTISTS HAVE DENIED IT, THOUGH.
NO WAY
IT MUST BE CG
Right?
NO,
THE STORIES HAVE COME TRUE!
ABOUT A METEORITE FALLING ...
I WONDER IF IT'S ONE OF THOSE ATTRACTIONS
WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS THIS?
SHAKE
BLOCK
SO,
YOU WANT TO SEE FOR YOURSELVES?
buzz
buzz
buzz
buzz
THAT'S RIGHT. WE WON'T BELIEVE THIS.
UNLESS WE CAN SEE IT WITH OUR OWN EYES...
AT LEAST LET US LOOK OUTSIDE, PLEASE!
WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT?!
ARE YOU GOING TO ARREST US?!
THIS.
IS THE CURRENT SITUATION.
YOU CAN'T GO OUTSIDE.

AFTER SEVERAL TRIPS,
WE'LL ONLY HAVE SURVEIL-LANCE DEVICES LEFT
AND IT WILL BE CLOSED OFF, TOO.
KTOOM
THAT ELEVATOR
KROOM
LED DIRECTLY UP TO THE SURFACE
KROOM
RUMBLE
YOU GUYS CAN GO, TOO
TEN PEOPLE AT A TIME CAN GO UP.
TAKASHI-SAN.
AND THAT THEY'D SHOWN US EXAGGERATED REPORTS
UNTIL...
CLONK
WELL, I THOUGHT THAT A CRAZY STORY LIKE THAT COULDN'T BE TRUE,
I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES...

I THOUGHT ...

THAT I'D HIT THE JACKPOT.

YOU KNEW THAT IT WOULD BE FLOODED WITH WATER.
THAT'S WHY YOU CALLED IT "RYUGU", RIGHT?
YOU KNEW.
THERE'S A SMALL ICE AGE AHEAD OF US.
THERE WON'T BE MANY PLANTS OR ANIMALS...
THAT CAN SURVIVE.
BUT THE DUST BLOWN UP, AND THE SMOKE...
WILL CUT OFF THE SUNLIGHT.
THE EARTH WILL COOL.

RUMBLE
NO WAY!
GAAAH!!
WHAT NOW?
MY MOM!
WHAT DO I DO?
THIS CAN'T BE TRUE!
MY PARENTS AT HOME!
What happened to the countryside?!
THE PEOPLE THAT HAD GONE UP TO WITNESS IT
CAME CRAWLING OUT HORROR-STRICKEN
THE ELEVATOR WENT UP AND DOWN A FEW TIMES.
SHAKE
THAT I'D HIT THE JACKPOT.
I'D FOOLISHLY BELIEVED...
RUMBLE
THAT'S WHY OUR GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN COUNTER-MEASURES.
THIS PLACE!
IT HAD BEEN PREDICTED
DECADES AGO!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
THIS WAS FORESEEN!

YOU ARE CHOSEN...
AND YOU NEED TO SURVIVE!
"RYUGU" ...
IS A SHELTER THAT WAS BUILT FOR THIS DAY.
LET'S ALL DO OUR BEST HERE,
AND WORK TOGETHER,
UNTIL THE DAY WE CAN GO OUTSIDE!
SHELTERS LIKE THIS...
ARE SPREAD ALL OVER JAPAN!
FOOD HAS BEEN SECURED.
OUR UNIQUE SELF-RENEWING ENERGY SYSTEM IS FLAWLESS, AS WELL.
WE'RE GOING TO COMMUNICATE WITH THEM AND AID ONE ANOTHER.
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
LET'S HOLD ON TO HOPE,
AND...
KEEP ON LIVING HERE!

But Maria saved them.

THE ONE THAT WAS PLAYED OVER AND OVER ON TV UNTIL YOU WERE SICK OF IT.
SHE PERFORMED HER BALLAD.
I WONDER WHY
IT BROUGHT TEARS TO MY EYES.
BUT EVEN STILL

MAYBE BECAUSE ..
I COULD IMAGINE THAT THIS IS WHAT THE VOICE OF AN ANGEL...
WOULD REALLY SOUND LIKE ..
Wah!
MAMA ...
WHERE ARE YOU?
ALL OF A SUDDEN
EVERYBODY STARTED CRYING SILENTLY

WHAT IS IT?
HA HA HA
KEEP IT UP
YOU'LL DO THE WALKING, OF COURSE!
WE WANT MORE
YOU'D ONLY GO MISSING, TOO.
HOW CAN YOU SEARCH WITH YOUR SHORT LEGS?
SHUT UP, MORON!
OH MY, ARE YOU TWO LOST?
SHOULD I SEARCH FOR YOUR MOTHER?

OUR ROLES.
WE KNEW...

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Storm in Heaven
www.storminheaven.org

BRUSH
BRUSH
MORNING, PETE
I WAS WOKEN UP BY AN UPBEAT SONG OF MIKI-MARI'S THAT I'D SET IN ADVANCE.
I'M NOT AWAKE YET.
ALL RIGHT!

Ashes Chapter 5

【 A Gate Difficult to Cross 】

Shirth The Pete Brothers

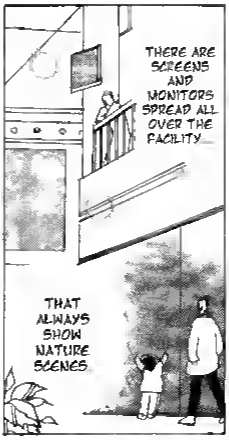
Mark-kun is hard to pronounce, so she skips the "kun"
MARK!
MORN-ING
MARIA-SAN,
GOOD MORNING!

tap tap tap

YEAH.
NICE WEA-THER, ISN'T IT?
Cool T-shirt
I KINDA FELT LIKE I DIDN'T GET ENOUGH EXERCISE
I got it from one of my fans.
ARE YOU JOGGING, TOO?

IT CONTINUALLY DISPLAYS THE SKY BASED ON THESE SON AND HOUR.
THE CEILING AT THE CENTRAL HALL IS SCREEN CONVERTED INTO A LARGE SCREEN.
Actually I only wanted to be with you.
Good morning.
Maria-san morning
Hi, Miki-Mori.

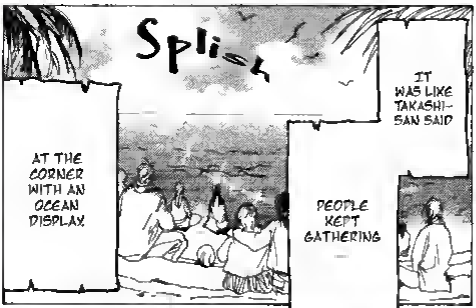
IN THE WESTERN OR ISLAMIC WORLD,
THE CHURCH OR MOSQUE WOULD TAKE ON A KEY ROLE HERE, I GUESS

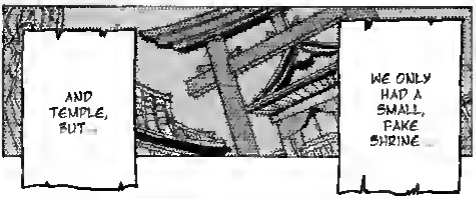

THERE ARE SCREENS AND MONITORS SPREAD ALL OVER THE FACILITY...
THAT ALWAYS SHOW NATURE SCENES

AT NIGHT IT TURNS INTO A STARRY SKY.
THERE ARE RAINY DAYS, TOO.
THEY CALL IT RAIN, BUT IT'S ONLY THE SOUND

THAT SEES ALL OF THEIR GODS IN NATURE
BECAUSE WE'RE A NATION..

BUT THE JAPANESE REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO HOLD ON TO
EVEN FOR CITY DWELLERS
IF ANYTHING, IT WOULD BE NATURE OR THE CHANGING OF THE SEASONS


Splish
AT THE CORNER WITH AN OCEAN DISPLAY
IT WAS LIKE TAKASHI-SAN SAID
PEOPLE KEPT GATHERING...


AND TEMPLE, BUT...
WE ONLY HAD A SMALL, FAKE SHRINE...

THEY HELD A MASS FUNERAL SERVICE,
SINCE MANY PEOPLE HAD LOST FAMILY MEMBERS...
Even people that didn't approve were there.
IN THAT REGARD,
I HAVE IT EASY SINCE I DON'T HAVE.
huff huff
ANY CLOSE RELATIVES
I DON'T HAVE ANY, EITHER.
IT SEEMS THE SAME GOES FOR TAGAMI-KUN...
AND SARU-WATARI-KUN.

I'M SURE
THEY ONLY...
CHOOSE PEOPLE LIKE US...
AS STAFF.

I ASKED ABOUT HOW THEY SELECTED PEOPLE
WHY ME?
THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOTS OF OTHER ENTER-TAINERS WITH MORE TALENT THAN ME
YOU SHOULDN'T ADMIT THAT...
BECAUSE I HAD THE FEELING...
THAT YOU COULD LIE BEST
THAT'S NOT A VERY GOOD REASON
HOW MEAN!
HAHAHAHA
FUNNY, VERY FUNNY!

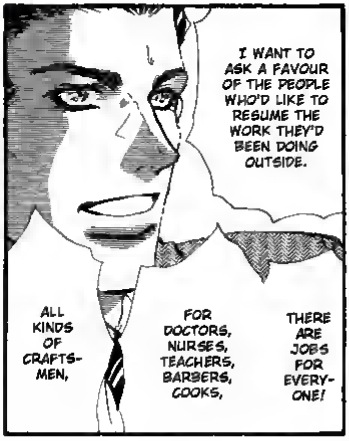
Takemura Hitomi-san from living area A.
Now, let's start with today's birthdays.
IS PRETTY CHEERFUL ISN'T HE?
KAGAMI-KUN.
IT'S SEPTEMBER 18TH, 8 O'CLOCK.
IF ANYONE ISN'T FEELING WELL, PRESS THE BUTTON FOR A DIRECT LINE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE, OKAY?
DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
Good morning!
Good morning, everybody!

OH, REPRINTS!
WHOA, RECORDS!
AMAZING!
BUT HE CHEERED UP COMPLETELY
WE HAVE A COLLECTION OF THEM.
IF YOU'D TOLD ME BEFORE...
I'D HAVE BROUGHT ALL THE RECORDS THAT I HAD AT HOME!
AT FIRST KAGAMI-KUN HIT ROCK BOTTOM.

THEY SAID THAT SAKATA-SAN SHUT HIMSELF UP INSIDE.
AND THAT HE DIDN'T COME BACK OUT FOR THREE DAYS.
WE HAVE A COLLECTION, TOO.
MANGAS.
MY PRECIOUS VIDEOS.
MY GAMES.
SAME WITH MANGA ARTIST SAKATA TOKIDOKI.

Good morning.
We're speaking from "Neo Tokyo",
the shelter of southern Kanto.
Now for the morning comments from our prime minister...
OK,
LET'S PLAY THE SHELTER NEWS...
FOR THE MORNING!
You can read today's two pages of Sakata Tokidoki's serialized manga "Wonderful Q!"...
on the monitor in your room...
I look forward to it every day, too.
This is "Inatov"...
from the Tohoku region.
Every-body at "Ryugu",
how are you?
WITH ALL THE SHELTERS IN JAPAN EVERY DAY
We're speaking from "Izumo" in Sanin.
We're speaking from "Shelter Shachihoko" in Nagoya
We're speaking from "Hyaku-mangoku" in Hokuriku
WE COMMUNI-CATED
Our first morning wish comes from kay-san
All right, let's work hard again today.
"A good-morning kiss from Miki Mari"
I'd like to get one myself
We'll have a baseball broadcast in the evening, too.
CHEERED EACH OTHER UP.
"Ryoma" in western Japan
WE ALL...
From the far North in Hokkaido GOOD MORNING!

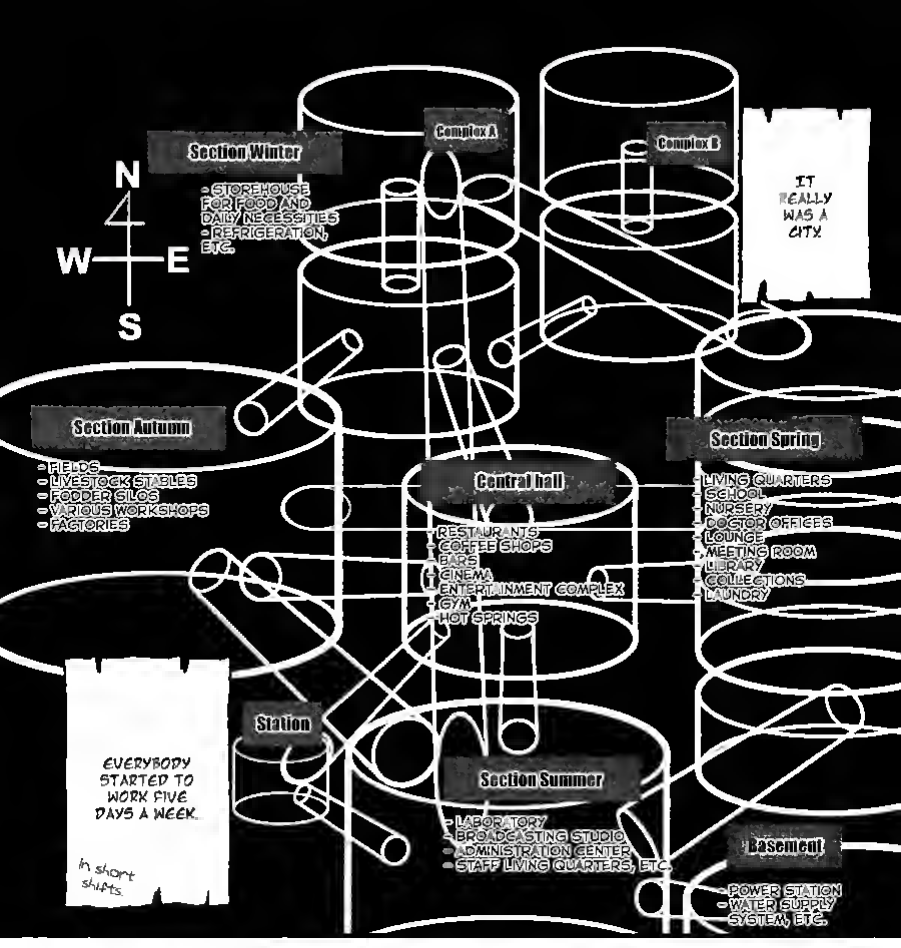
Have a great day!!

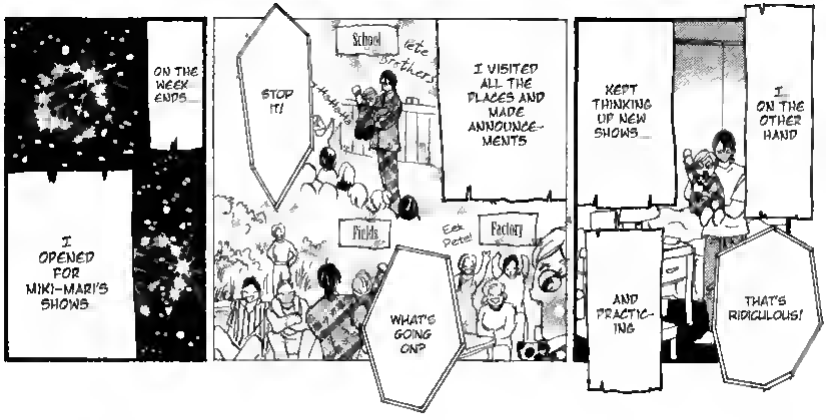

I WANT TO ASK A FAVOUR OF THE PEOPLE WHO'D LIKE TO RESUME THE WORK THEY'D BEEN DOING OUTSIDE.
ALL KINDS OF CRAFTS-MEN,
FOR DOCTORS, NURSES, TEACHERS, BARBERS, COOKS,
THERE ARE JOBS FOR EVERY-ONE!

EVERY-BODY!
THIS SHELTER IS THE "CITY" WHICH WILL BE FORMED ...
BY ALL OF US.

ONCE EVERYONE HAD CALMED DOWN ..
THEY QUIETLY FOLLOWED INSTRUCTIONS

LET'S TAKE TURNS...
AT CLEANING AND DOING LAUNDRY, TOO.
AND IN MAINTENANCE AND CON-STRUCTION
MANUFACTUR-ERS OF DAILY NECESSITIES,
FIELD HANDS AND STABLE-MEN,

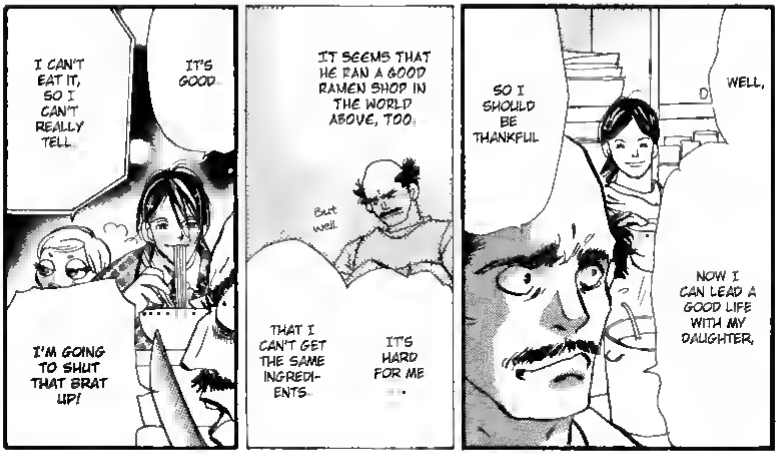

N
W
E
S
Section Winter
- STOREHOUSE FOR FOOD AND DAILY NECESSITIES
- REFRIGERATION, ETC.
Complex A
Complex B
IT REALLY WAS A CITY.
Section Autumn
- FIELDS
- LIVESTOCK STABLES
- FODDER SILOS
- VARIOUS WORKSHOPS
- FACTORIES
Section Spring
- LIVING QUARTERS
- SCHOOL
- NURSERY
- DOCTOR OFFICES
- LOUNGE
- MEETING ROOM
- LIBRARY
- COLLECTIONS
- LAUNDRY
Central hall
- RESTAURANTS
- COFFEE SHOPS
- BARS
- CINEMA
- ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX
- GYM
- HOT SPRINGS
EVERYBODY STARTED TO WORK FIVE DAYS A WEEK.
In short shifts
Station
Section Summer
- LABORATORY
- BROADCASTING STUDIO
- ADMINISTRATION CENTER
- STAFF LIVING QUARTERS, ETC.
Basement
- POWER STATION
- WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, ETC.


ON THE WEEK ENDS...
I OPENED FOR MIKI-MARI'S SHOWS
STOP IT!
School
Fields
Factory
I VISITED ALL THE PLACES AND MADE ANNOUNCE-MENTS
WHAT'S GOING ON?
KEPT THINKING UP NEW SHOWS...
AND PRACTIC-ING
I... ON THE OTHER HAND
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!

WE COULD DRINK
AS MUCH WATER AS WE WANTER
Take showers as well
WELL THEN, SEE YOU IN THE EVENING
I've got homework
Take care
THANKS. YOU TOO!
YOU NEVER SEE HIM DURING THE DAY, DO YOU?
YOU'RE RIGHT. I WONDER WHERE HE IS
I NEED DRESSES
I HAVE TO TALK TO TAKASHI-SAN
private bottle
I CAN'T WEAR THE SAME STUFF EVERY TIME
I didn't bring that many

THE YUMMY KIND FROM THE OLD MAN
I'LL HAVE RAMEN TODAY, I GUESS
Place Used Cups Here
FOR ALL OTHER MEALS AND DRINKS, THEY DISTRIBUTED VOUCHERS
Daily necessities were distributed too

THE OLD MAN WAS AT THE LEADING EDGE OF THE UPROAR
DEMANDING TO LEAVE
BUT NOW HE'S WORKING ENERGETI-CALLY
WITH HIS DAUGHTER
HELLO!
Welcome
YOU COME HERE OFTEN.
Aren't you running out of vouchers?
Vouchers.
Red – set menu changes daily
Blue – breakfast and snacks
Yellow – pasta dishes
White – sweets and desserts
Purple – à la carte (stuffed pancakes pizza etc.)
Green – drinks (alcohol included)
*exchanging with others is possible
MISTER,
RAMEN, PLEASE


I CAN'T EAT IT, SO I CAN'T REALLY TELL.
IT'S GOOD.
I'M GOING TO SHUT THAT BRAT UP!
IT SEEMS THAT HE RAN A GOOD RAMEN SHOP IN THE WORLD ABOVE, TOO.
But well...
THAT I CAN'T GET THE SAME INGREDI-ENTS...
IT'S HARD FOR ME...
SO I SHOULD BE THANKFUL
WELL,
NOW I CAN LEAD A GOOD LIFE WITH MY DAUGHTER.

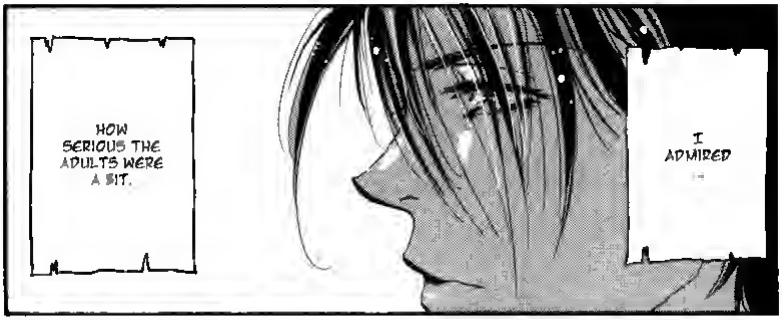
Rustle

Please be polite.
AS IF, MORON! GET OUT!
I'M SHORT ON LEEKS!
TELL YOUR BOSSES TO FORK OVER SOME MORE!
OH, PISUKE, THE COMPLAINT MANAGER.
Are there any problems?

EXCUSE ME, THE LIGHTS IN OUR ROOMS HAVE LOOSE CONNECTIONS
OUR NEIGHBOURS ARE NOISY AT NIGHT, TOO..
Do something about it.
I'll take care of it.
WAH!
YAY!
PISUKE..
WAH!
IT'S PISUKE!
HEY,
PISUKE!
PETE!
AH!
WAH!
IT'S PETE!
COME ON, PETE..
WE'RE NOT GONNA LOSE TO HIM.
THAT MARIA IS WORRIED BECAUSE SHE'S SHORT ON DRESSES.
IT SEEMS ...
YOU WANNA PICK A FIGHT?
Sorry about that.
AH, RIGHT.
AHA HA
YOU COPIED MY NAME!!
AHA HAHAHA

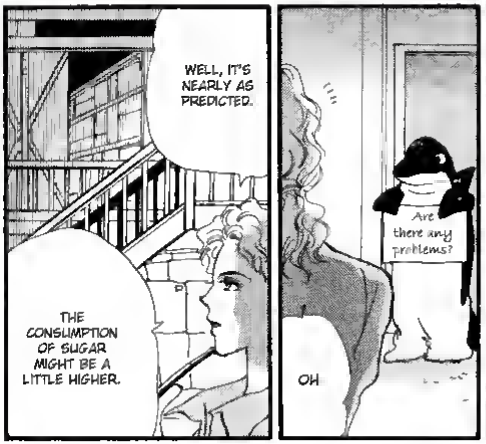
Bounce
MARIA-SAN,
WE'VE BEEN TAILORS FOR A LONG TIME!
OUR SHOP WAS PRETTY POPULAR!
We've even been on TV!
WE CREATE ACCESSO-RIES, AS WELL!
Choose whatever you like
We could also make shoes!
I COULD DO YOUR HAIR AND MAKEUP!
WE MAKE KNITWEAR, TOO.
I-I-I-I-WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I THINK THAT I COULD MAKE A ONE-PIECE RETRO DRESS FOR YOU, AS WELL!
BLACK BOARD
THIS IS .
Lets have a flea market
SAKATA TOKIOKI-SENSEI IS LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT!
I'm looking for a job
WHAT OUR STRANGE LIFE WAS LIKE
TWO PAGES OF A SERIAL-IZED MANGA EVERY DAY...
I have to draw a highlight every day Sigh
ARE HARDER THAN EXPECTED
I want to play computer games
There's a deadline day after day
Hah...

BUT EVERY-BODY DID THEIR JOB SERIOUSLY
IT WAS STRANGE


HOW SERIOUS THE ADULTS WERE A BIT.
I ADMIRED

AND I WAS OFTEN FRIGHTENED
THERE WERE STILL EARTHQUAKES FREQUENTLY.
SWAY

THERE WERE...
YOUNG MEN WHO WERE A LITTLE REBEL-LIOUS


WELL, IT'S NEARLY AS PREDICTED.
THE CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR MIGHT BE A LITTLE HIGHER.
Are there any problems?
OH

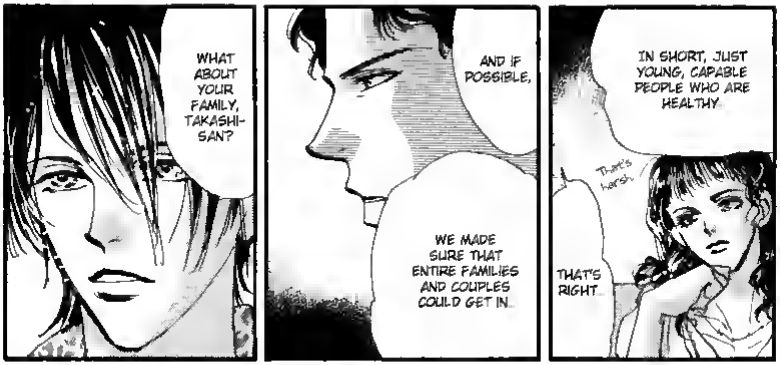
TAKASHI-SAN
AFTER ALL, IF YOU'RE UNDER STRESS,
YOU'D WANT MORE SWEETS, I GUESS.

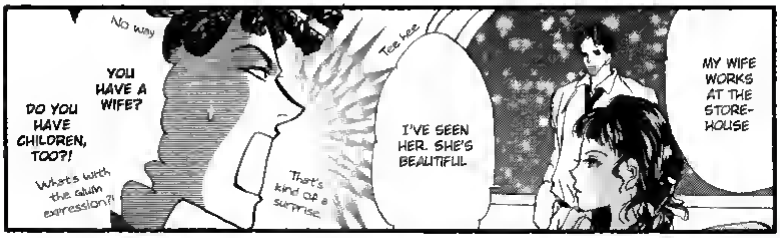
YEAH, BUT THIS WAY I'M IN THE KNOW ABOUT EVERY-THING THAT'S GOING ON...
GOOD WORK.
HANDLING THE COM-PLAINTS IS PRETTY TOUGH, ISN'T IT?
... EVEN IF I'M DEAD TIRED

I GUESS SO
GOOD JOB, MIHO!

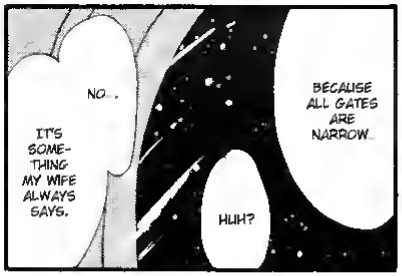
I JUST FOUND THESE...
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU.
SURE, SURE.
MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.
I'LL TAKE MY TIME WITH THAT LATER.
ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF STOREHOUSE B1
RIGHT AT THE TOP.
WHERE?
IT SEEMS THERE ARE STILL FOOLS WHO DON'T EVEN KNOW THAT
THE MOST DANGEROUS THING UNDERGROUND IS A FIRE
EVEN IF THEY DON'T SMOKE REGULARLY, IT'S STILL A NUISANCE. .
SOMEONE MUST HAVE SMUGGLED THEM IN.
I HOPED THEY WOULDN'T CHOOSE SMOKERS
There, of all places...

IT BECAME OUR ROUTINE TO MEET FOR A REVIEW EVERY EVENING
THEY POLLUTE THE AIR,
It's a real pain.
AND YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FIRES.
Perfect
He just quit
WHAT WERE THE OTHER CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?
Like what was out of the question?
THE SAME WITH ANYONE WITH UNUSUAL ALLERGIES OR CHRONIC DISEASES,
NO ONE OLDER THAN SIXTY WAS CHOSEN, AND ONLY A FEW OVER FIFTY.
ALCOHOLICS WERE OUT.
OR THOSE WHO WERE OVERWEIGHT OR DIDN'T EAT A HEALTHY DIET.
AND YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO WERE UNPRODUCTIVE IN SOCIETY WEREN'T LET IN
THOSE WHO COLDLY BULLIED OTHERS WHEN THEY WERE IN SCHOOL,
ALL THE WAY DOWN TO SHOP LIFTING.
ALSO, ANYONE WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD,
Someone was smoking in the storehouse
If anyone feels they must smoke, please come forward
We're thinking about opening a smoking room.
so refrain from smoking in secret
PLEASE!
I DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT SMOKERS
Personally


WHAT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY, TAKASHI-SAN?
AND IF POSSIBLE,
WE MADE SURE THAT ENTIRE FAMILIES AND COUPLES COULD GET IN.
IN SHORT, JUST YOUNG, CAPABLE PEOPLE WHO ARE HEALTHY.
That's harsh.
THAT'S RIGHT.

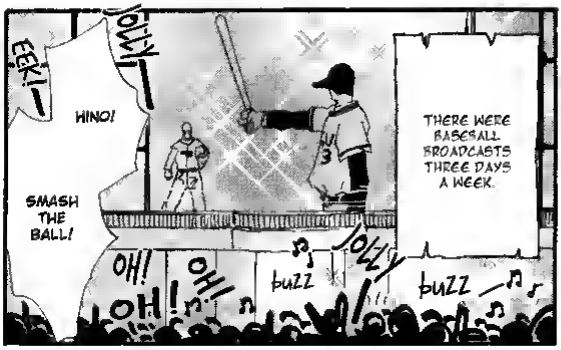

No way
YOU HAVE A WIFE?
DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN, TOO?!
What's with the glum expression?!
Tee hee
That's kind of a surprise
I'VE SEEN HER. SHE'S BEAUTIFUL.
MY WIFE WORKS AT THE STORE-HOUSE

Huh?
YES.
ANOTHER SHELTER?!
WHY?

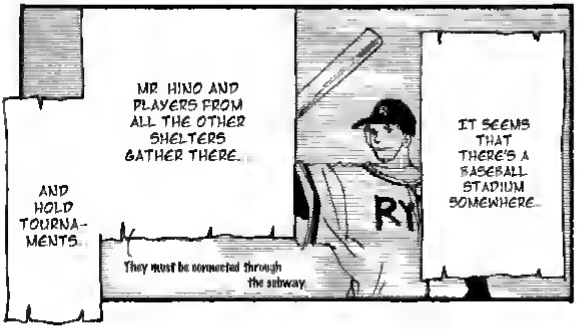

NO...
IT'S SOME-THING MY WIFE ALWAYS SAYS.
BECAUSE ALL GATES ARE NARROW.
HUH?

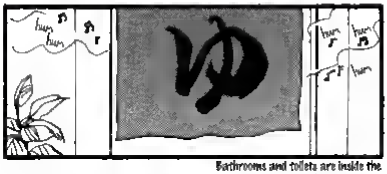
MY DAUGH-TER...
IS SOME-WHERE ELSE.

IT'D BE NICE..
IF YOU COULD
I...
INTEND TO CROSS IT AT YOUR SIDE, THOUGH.
THAT TWO PEOPLE CAN'T POSSIBLY CROSS IT SIDE BY SIDE
THE GATE TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SO NARROW...

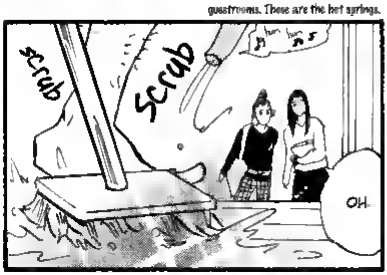

EEK!
HINO!
SMASH THE BALL!
OH!
OH!
OH!
buzz
buzz
THERE WERE BASEBALL BROADCASTS THREE DAYS A WEEK.

WHAT.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A LOVE STORY.
I GUESS.
THOSE MEETINGS TURNED INTO CHIT-CHAT MOST OF THE TIME THOUGH

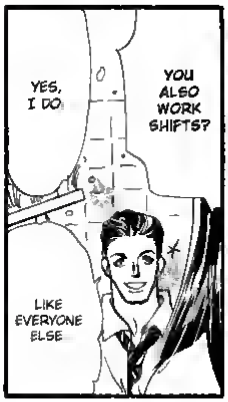

IT SEEMS THAT THERE'S A BASEBALL STADIUM SOMEWHERE.
MR. HINO AND PLAYERS FROM ALL THE OTHER SHELTERS GATHER THERE.
AND HOLD TOURNA-MENTS.
They must be connected through the subway.

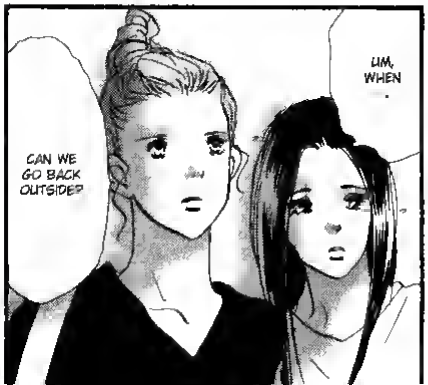


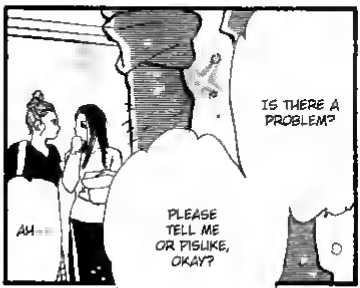
Bathrooms and toilets are inside the guestrooms. These are the hot springs.

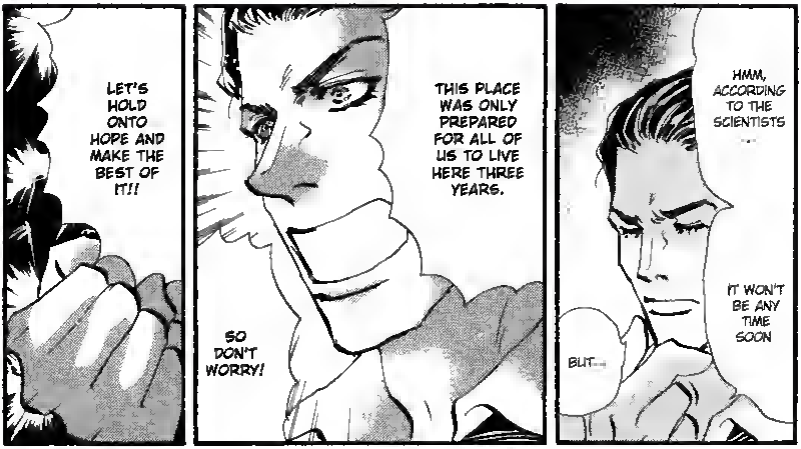


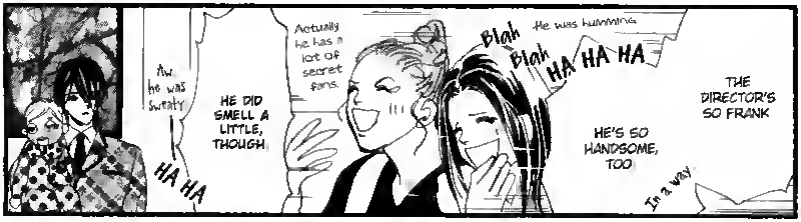
WAH——
OH!
THEY SAID THAT THERE WEREN'T ANY SEATS FOR SPECTATORS,
BUT EVERYBODY WAS PRETTY EXCITED
SO WE COULD ONLY CHEER THEM ON THROUGH THE MONITORS
AND ENJOYED THE GAMES








LET'S HOLD ONTO HOPE AND MAKE THE BEST OF IT!!
THIS PLACE WAS ONLY PREPARED FOR ALL OF US TO LIVE HERE THREE YEARS.
SO DON'T WORRY!
HMM, ACCORDING TO THE SCIENTISTS ...
IT WON'T BE ANY TIME SOON
BUT...


Aw, he was sweaty
HA HA
HE DID SMELL A LITTLE, THOUGH
Actually he has a lot of secret fans.
He was humming
Blah Blah
HA HA HA
HE'S SO HANDSOME, TOO
THE DIRECTOR'S SO FRANK
In a way

HOW DID IT GO AFTER THAT?
I DIDN'T FIND ANY MORE CIGARETTE STUBS,
AND SECURITY WAS TIGHTENED, TOO

THEE YEARS IS A LONG TIME,
BUT I'M A BIT RELIEVED

PREPARED FOR THREE YEARS ?
THAT MEANS ...
THAT THERE'S A CHANCE THAT WE CAN LEAVE THIS PLACE WITHIN THREE YEARS

HANA
AND KANAME-KUN...
ARE SLEEPING
TO THE SOUND OF RAIN, TOO
SHSSS
HEHE
THE SOUND OF RAIN IS NICE, ISN'T IT?
SHSSH
RAIN?
THEY'LL ARRIVE SAFELY
DON'T WORRY,
I HOPE THAT THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEMS INSIDE THE COLD STORAGE CAPSULES
THEY'RE IN THE SEA
It's just some schoolgirl crush.
Oh, but we were in high school when we met, too
Q
Q
chuckle
YOU COULD HAVE GONE AS WELL
HANA WILL DO HER BEST...
IF THE MAN SHE LOVES IS BY HER SIDE
HE'S SUCH A WIMP, I DON'T LIKE HIM.
ARASHI-KUN WENT TOO, RIGHT?
He's so defenseless.
He should have been stronger
chuckle
I'M QUITE FOND OF HIM.
OH,

I ONLY WANT TO BE READY
TO FACE DEATH...
ON MY OWN, AT ANY TIME
THE GATE IS NARROW, THOUGH
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO KILL THE MOOD?
I WANTED TO FACE THE END...
AT YOUR SIDE
I'M YOUR WIFE AND HANA'S MOTHER.
If I wasn't, I wouldn't be able to do it.
YOU'RE SO STRONG
THEN I'LL BRING YOU SOME COFFEE LATER.
THANKS
NO, IT'S MY JOB.
WANT SOME HELP?
OKAY, I'VE STILL GOT SOME WORK TO DO
THE DELIVERY NEEDS TO BE READY BY MORNING.

The monitors are broken and under repair
We don't have a visual, so be careful
I'll send backup
Got it
GUARD-ROOM,
IT SEEMS SOME-BODY IS SMOKING HERE AGAIN
I'LL CHECK IT OUT.
AGAIN?!
IT SMELLS LIKE SMOKE
clatter
clatter
clatter
B-1

WE'RE SICK OF THIS PLACE!
clatter
clatter
SORRY, BUT PLEASE LET THIS SLIDE
WE WANT TO RETURN TO THE SURFACE!
There wasn't supposed to be a person in here!
clatter
clatter
CRAP!
I TOLD YOU TO QUIT SMOKING, MAN!
THEY FOUND US!
WHO'S THERE?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
COME OUT!
WE WANT TO DO IT OUTSIDE.
IF WE'RE GOING TO DIE ANYWAY...
clatter
clatter
clatter
THERE ARE PEOPLE WE WANT TO SEE!
SLO
SH
BUT WE NEED AN EXIT...
CRACK
Stomp
Stomp
Stomp
Stomp
WHAT'S WRONG?!
IF THERE'S EVEN A SMALL CRACK, THE PRESSURE DIFFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE COULD...
BUT WHAT'S THE USE OF DOING THAT?!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE OUT THERE. IT'S STILL SHAKING!

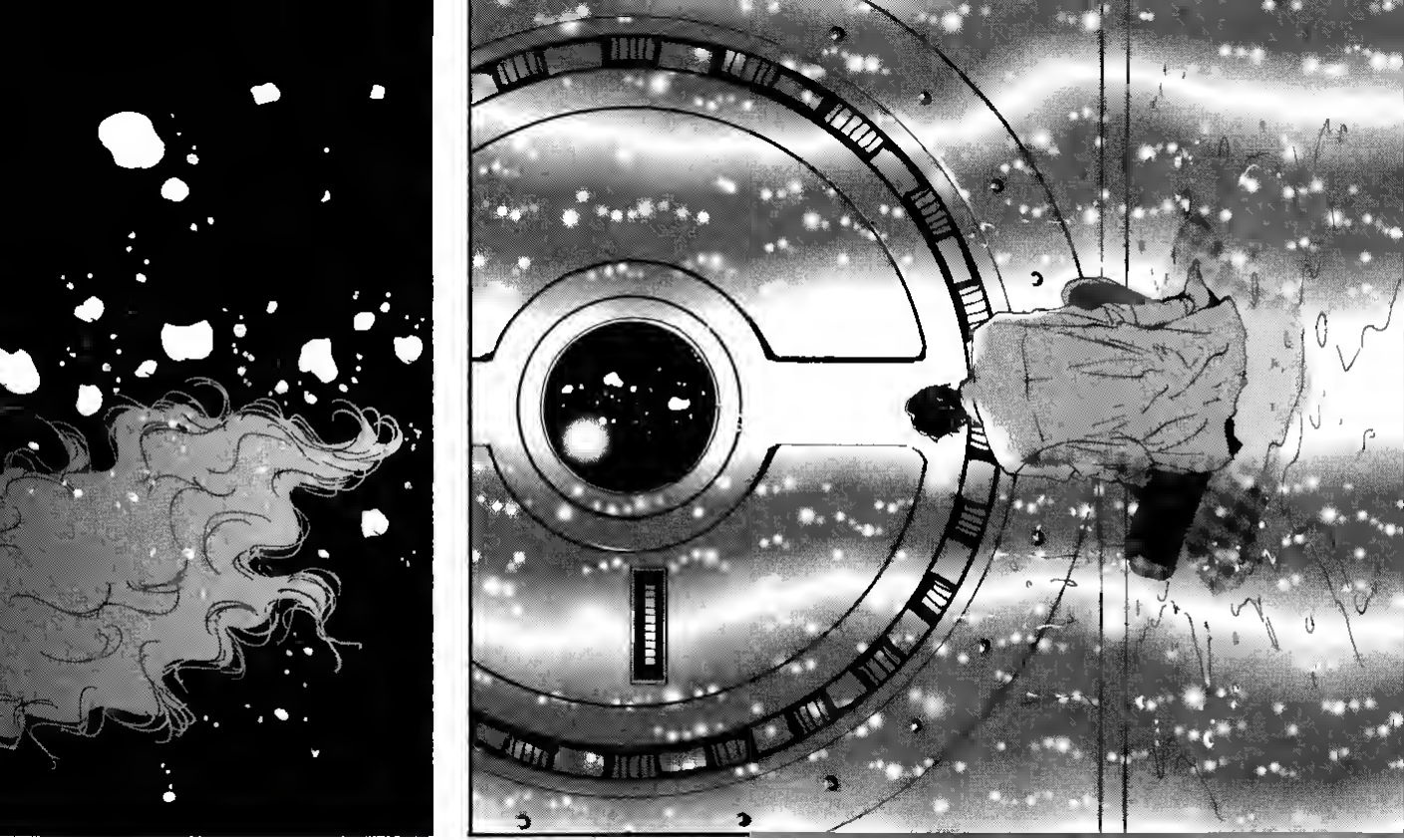
SLO
SH
SFX: SSH
SSSS
WHOA-
SFX: SSH
SFX: SPLASH

THOSE DOORS
CUT THE WIRES
ROAR
THE EMERGENCY DOOR ISN'T CLOSING!
HISS
WHY ISN'T THE ALARM GOING OFF?!
SWOOSH
COMPLEX B IS ALREADY LOST.
I HAVE TO STOP IT ON THE WAY TO COMPLEX A, SOMEHOW.
IT'S NO USE
BEEP
TILT
TILT
GUARD-ROOM,
WATER BREACH IN COMPLEX B!
CLOSE THE DOOR!

creak
THE DOOR TO SECTION AUTUMN
creak
THE DOOR TO THE CENTRAL HALL,
AND THE DOOR UP THERE, IF I CLOSE THEM...
THE REST MIGHT BE SAVED
creak
CLOSE!
MAYBE I CAN CLOSE THEM REMOTELY
CLOSE!
SSSSSSSS
IT'S GOING TO FLOOD INTO THE OTHER SECTIONS!
GO OFF,
ALARM!
WHIR
WHIR
WHIR
WHIR
THE DOOR TO SECTION AUTUMN
WON'T CLOSE!
CONK
CONK
CONK
WHIR

IT'S NOT WIDE ENOUGH TO SQUEEZE THROUGH!
WHIR
WHIR
I CAN'T CLOSE IT FROM THE OTHER SIDE.
IF THE STORE-HOUSE ABOVE AND THE FIELDS ARE FLOODED
ALL THE FOOD WILL BE GONE IN ONE FELL SWOOP
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.
WHIR
UUUUH!
CLOOOOSE!
WHIR
TAKASHI-SAN!

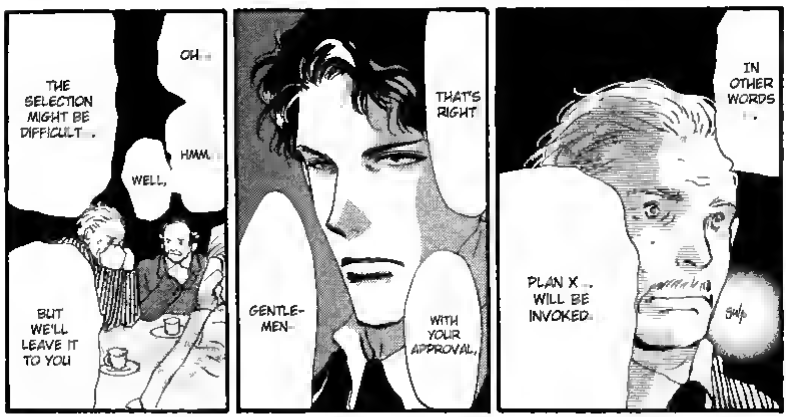
HAH
HAH
RUMBLE
Central Belt
Sector Winter
A TYPHOON?
A DOWN-POUR?
Sssssh
THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO GO TO THE TROUBLE AT THIS HOUR...
Sssssh
splish
splish
MIHO!
HAH
HAH

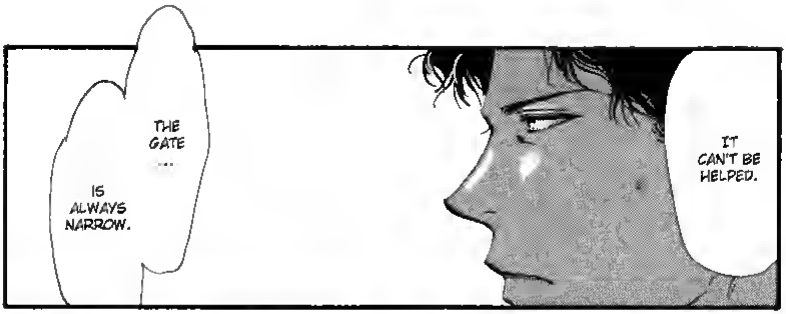


TAKASHI-SAN,
DON'T BE SAD
WE'VE BEEN LIVING FOR QUITE SOME TIME
KNOWING THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS COULD HAPPEN
THIS MORNING
I WAS WOKEN UP BY THE SOUND OF RAIN
THE ENTIRE COMPLEX WAS IN AN UPROAR
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I LEARNED THAT THE STOREHOUSE HAD BEEN FLOODED BY SEAWATER DURING THE NIGHT
AND THAT TAKASHI-SAN'S WIFE HAD DIED TRYING TO STOP IT

LUCKILY, THE DAMAGE IS LIMITED TO SECTION WINTER.
BUT THREE QUARTERS OF THE STORE-HOUSE ARE FLOODED.
THERE'S NO WAY TO DRAIN THE WATER UNDER THE CURRENT CIRCUM-STANCES

MEAN-ING,
AS THINGS STAND NOW,
WE ONLY HAVE ENOUGH FOOD FOR THREE MONTHS.
MEANING WHAT?


OH...
THE SELECTION MIGHT BE DIFFICULT...
HMM.
WELL,
BUT WE'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU
THAT'S RIGHT
GENTLE-MEN.
WITH YOUR APPROVAL,
IN OTHER WORDS...
PLAN X... WILL BE INVOKED.
SHIP


THE GATE ...
IS ALWAYS NARROW.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN!
WE'RE GOING TO TRANSFER HALF OF YOU...
TO A DIFFERENT SHELTER NOW.

THAT WAS THE BEGINNING ...
OF OUR DOWNFALL.

BUZZ BUZZ
HUH?
IF YOUR NAME APPEARS ON THE SCREEN, PREPARE YOUR THINGS QUICKLY!

7Seeds
Scanned by Hoowee
Translated by Yuriko
Edited by Grassy
QC by [illegible] & Yuriko
Storm in Heaven
www.storminheaven.org

Ashes Chapter 6

【— A Christmas Carol —】

AND IF THEY WENT TO A SHELTER,
THEN IT'D HAVE BEEN IN KANTO.
MY FATHER WAS A SERIOUS GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE AND MY MOTHER WAS A QUIET HOUSEWIFE.
NO
NEITHER OF THEM WERE THE TYPE...
ISN'T IT POSSIBLE THAT THEY WERE YOUR PARENTS?
Even if this would be sad news
GOTTEN INTO A SHELTER, RIGHT?
THEY COULD HAVE...
I'M FROM TOHOKU.
MY PARENTS, TOO.
IF THEY WENT TO ONE...
I'LL
KEEP READING, OKAY?
WHAT IF THEY DIDN'T?
WHAT BECOME OF THAT SHELTER?
AND EVEN IF THEY DID

SO HALF OF US WERE TRANSFERRED TO A SHELTER THAT HAD BEEN BUILT NEARBY
THE STORE-HOUSE WAS FLOODED AND THERE WAS LESS FOOD.
Take care!
MARIA-SAN SENT THEM OFF WITH A CONCERT.
See you again!
Have a safe journey!
I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU A LESSON.
ROLE REVERSAL!
STOP CALLING ME THAT!
IF THEY COULD HAVE LOBSTER, THEN THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY REASON TO WORRY.
SILLY PETE
I'M NOT SILLY.
THE SHELTER'S NAME IS "ISE".
I PERFORMED MY NEW SHOW, OF COURSE.
HEH!—
Good for them!
IF IT'S CALLED "ISE", THEN THEY'LL GET LOBSTER, I BET!
Slump
fwup

YOU'RE AMAZING!
MARK, YOUR ROLE REVERSAL SHOW IS HILARIOUS!
Good!
Mama, your skirt is too short
NOW YOU'LL GET A TASTE OF HOW A DOLL FEELS!
HA HA HA HA
Let's stay like this for a while
AHA HA HA HA
THE AIR ON THE OUTSIDE IS SO SWEET!
HELP ME... I'M MARK!
HAHAHAH
I DID IT!
I'M PETE!
AH,
I CHANGED PLACES WITH YOU!
I TURNED INTO A DOLL!

EVERYONE ENTERED THE SUBWAY ONE AFTER ANOTHER
AND WENT TO ISE SHELTER

BUT BEING CONNECTED TO THE OTHERS
ENCOUR-AGED US MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE
Sch
We're speaking from "Neo Tokyo"
Today's set weather is a typhoon!
This is "Dontaku" from northern Kyushu
THERE WAS OFTEN STATIC
AND THE PICTURE AND SOUND WERE DISTORTED
Good morning, every-body at "Ryugu"
It's nice here, too
THE NEXT MORNING, ISE APPEARED ON THE SHELTER NEWS BROADCAST AS WELL

"WHAT DID YOU SAY?"
"THREE GHOSTS ARE GOING TO VISIT ME?"
THE DIRECTOR?
WHAT'S HE DOING?
Hmm?
As soon as the clock strikes one...
The very idea!
WE'RE AN AMATEUR THEATRICAL GROUP
WE WANT TO STAGE A PLAY FOR THE CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS
Wish Pete
We're rehearsing
IT'S CALLED "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"
Hey!
ACTUALLY, I HAVE SOME THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE!
WE ASKED THE DIRECTOR TO PLAY THE MAIN CHARACTER, "SCROOGE"
IT'S THAT STORY, YOU KNOW
ABOUT THAT STUBBORN, OBNOXIOUS OLD MAN...
WHO HAS GHOSTS SHOW HIM HIS OWN PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
IT'S THE STORY ABOUT HOW THAT GREAT SHOCK REFORMS HIM.
IF YOU TELL ME, YOU'LL SPOIL ALL THE FUN
HI, GOOD JOB, EVERYBODY!
I BROUGHT THE MILK.
Ah, what's that supposed to mean?
And exaggerated
HAHAHA
HAHA
BUT HIS PERFORMANCE IS SO AWKWARD
THAT IT'S ALMOST COMICAL

I THINK WE ALL WANTED
TO CHEER EACH OTHER UP
Because I let her listen to oneesa
MY MARY GIVES A LOT OF MILK...
NO MATTER THE CIRCUM-STANCES
I'LL GIVE YOU MY VOUCHERS
OH MY, CHU-SAN, THANK YOU, AS USUAL
Wah!
I'VE MILKED MY MARY.
Yay!
THANKS FOR THE MEAL!
YOUR RAMEN IS THE BEST, MISTER!
OUR MANGA ARTIST IS ALWAYS TIRED, TOO, I GUESS
The coffee isn't just for you, you know
You should get some sleep. Take it easy.
IT SEEMS SARU-KUN HASN'T BEEN GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP LATELY
YEAH,
HE TAKES HIS JOB AS A TELEVISION ENGINEER REALLY SERIOUSLY
ISN'T FEELING WELL, HUH?
OH, SARU-WATARI-SAN...

You could also drink as much coffee as you wanted.

I'M REALLY HAPPY
BUT...
I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH MORE RAMEN I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE...
DO YOU STILL HAVE ENOUGH VOUCHERS?
THANKS FOR ALWAYS COMING BY, MARK.
I TRADE WITH SOMEONE WHO LOVES RICE
BUT THERE'S NO FLOUR.
We're short on a lot of other things too.
SO IT SEEMS WE STILL HAVE MEAT AND STUFF LIKE THAT,
THE FREEZER MADE IT THROUGH.
THERE WAS ANOTHER ANNOUNCE-MENT
I'm sorry, but we're going to transfer...
half of you to Ise shelter again
CHHHH
CHRISTMAS LIGHTING WAS ADDED TO THE SCREEN
EVERYBODY LOVED TO HANG HANDMADE ORNAMENTS ON THE TREES
IS THIS THE STAR FESTIVAL*?!
I'LL PUT MY HEART INTO IT TO THE VERY LAST BOWL!
RIGHT!
DAD, DON'T BE SUCH A DOWNER.
THAT WOULD BE RICE NOODLES!!
CAN'T YOU MAKE NOODLES WITH RICE FLOUR?
*Note: Tanabata is a star festival held on July 7th.

* She even ate the pizza she sent flying

BUT I DON'T THINK THAT I...
CAN TAKE IT ANY-MORE.
SO... I SHOULD PROBABLY TELL YOU...
IT'S JUST BECAUSE I CAN'T SLEEP.
Come on, sit down on the sofa.
NO, THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM.
LOOK FOR SOMEONE TO TEMP FOR YOU, AND WORK LESS.
You should go see a doctor to do on the safe side.
ARE YOU OKAY?
MARK, CALL THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE.
AH, NO DON'T.
IS THAT OKAY?
BUT IF I TELL YOU, YOU'LL BECOME MY ACCOM-PLICES
UM..
WELL,
YOU SEE...
THE TRUTH IS...
WE WON'T KNOW IF IT'S OKAY UNLESS YOU TELL US.
I WANT TO KNOW
WHAT IS IT?

HUH?
BUT THERE'S A SHELTER NEWS BROADCAST EVERY MORNING.
NOT FROM KANTO, WHERE THE PRIME MINISTER IS,
HOKKAIDO, OR ANYWHERE ELSE.
NOR FROM SHIKOKU KYUSHU,
THAT WE HAVEN'T BEEN CONTACTED...
BY ANY OF THE SHELTERS FOR ABOUT A MONTH.

ADD SOME NOISE, AND BLUR THEM.
I TAKE THE VIDEOS, COPY AND PASTE PARTS, EDIT THEM,
I MAKE ONE LIKE THAT EVERY DAY.
WAIT A MINUTE!
W...
YEAH, BUT THOSE BROADCASTS...
ARE MADE BY ME.

I DON'T KNOW IF SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO THE OTHER SHELTERS...
BUT THE FACT IS...
OR IF THEY'RE JUST HAVING TROUBLE TRANSMITTING.
THAT WE'RE ON OUR OWN NOW...
WELL,
NO WAY!
THOSE ARE SENT BY TAKASHI-SAN OR SOMEONE ELSE
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE EMAILS WE EXCHANGE?!
I RECEIVE WRITTEN NEWS FROM EVERY-WHERE!
WHAT ABOUT ISE?
clack
THOSE...
AREN'T THE ONLY LIES.
SHOULDN'T THEY TELL EVERYBODY?
WHY WOULD THEY LIE TO US LIKE THIS?
WOULD IT CAUSE A PANIC? EVEN NOW?
WELL, I DON'T KNOW...
SINCE...
WE REALLY HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM THEM, EITHER.

MR. HINO!!
HUH?! AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE PLAYING A GAME NOW?
THERE ARE NO GAMES
THERE ISN'T A BASEBALL SHELTER
I'VE BEEN HERE ALL ALONG
I'VE BEEN MAKING BASEBALL BROADCASTS WITH SARU-KUN HERE
HUH?!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
WE'VE GOT SOFTWARE WITH VIDEOS OF GAMES WITH ALL THE PLAYERS.
I LET HIM STRIKE POSES.
AND I INCLUDED HINO-SAN AS HE LOOKS NOW.
IN SHORT,
THEY LOOK LIKE BASEBALL GAMES.
WE HAVE THOUSANDS OF GAME PATTERNS, TOO.
TAKASHI-SAN ASKED ME,
Tump
IF I COULD BE A BASEBALL PLAYER.
TO THE VERY END.
I WAS SURPRISED
BECAUSE WE DIDN'T ASK IF I COULD PLAY BASEBALL

I NEVER THOUGHT THAT I'D HAVE TO PRETEND TO PLAY BASEBALL.
BUT...
I COULDN'T SLEEP ANYMORE, OUT OF FEAR.
THAT'S WHY...
DO YOU THINK THAT "ISE" SHELTER... REALLY EXISTS?
DIREC-TOR!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!
HUH?!
CLACK
UM, EXCUSE ME
THE MEETING FOR TOMORROW'S FAREWELL PARTY IS GOING TO...
THERE WERE THOU-SANDS OF PEOPLE!
WHERE ELSE WOULD EVERY-BODY HAVE GONE?
OF COURSE IT DOES!

I KNEW IT...
I THOUGHT THAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE VOICE... OF A POLITICIAN.
ONE DAY, TAKASHI-SAN SHOWED UP...
I'm really sorry.
AND TOLD ME THAT HE HAD JUST THE RIGHT JOB FOR ME.
WHAT?!
I'M A LITTLE-KNOWN ACTOR.
IT'S BECAUSE MY LOOKS ARE TOO OLD-FASHIONED, AND MY ACTING IS TOO EXAGGERATED
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.
UM...
I'M SORRY.
I'M NOT REALLY THE DIRECTOR, YOU SEE

WHAT IF "ISE" SHELTER WAS A LIE, TOO...?
IT WAS ALL A LIE.

WITH ME TOMORROW.
IF YOU DO,
YOU CAN RIDE THE TRAIN TAKING PEOPLE TO ISE...
Log...
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

Vrooo~

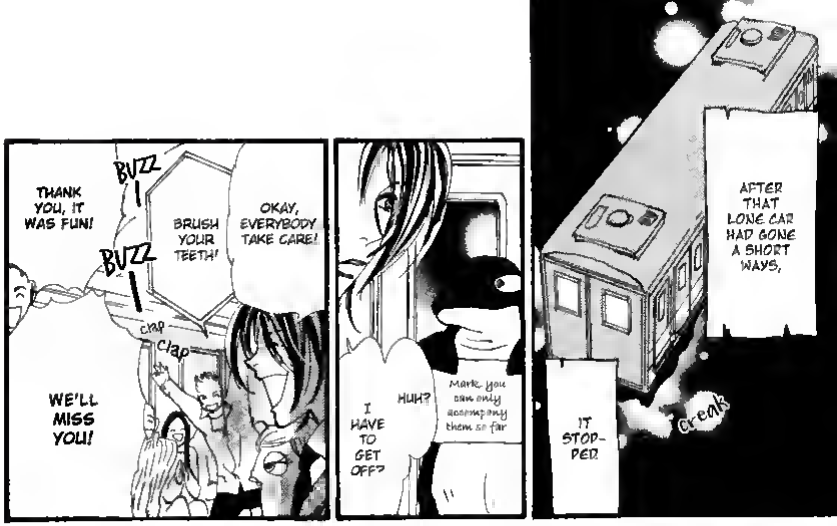
WERE PERFORMING A COMEDY ROUTINE ON THE TRAIN.
HAHAHA
HAHAHAHAHA
PISUKE AND I

AT A SMALL STATION.
(Creech)
AFTER A WHILE, THE TRAIN STOPPED

SINCE THE OTHERS DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE THEIR POSTS,
I WOUND UP GOING,
AND TELL US WHAT HAPPENS.
MARK, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF IT,
Be careful!

ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
THE GROUND IS WEAK,
SO IN ORDER TO KEEP THE VIBRATIONS DOWN, WE'RE GOING TO TAKE YOU IN SINGLE CARS...

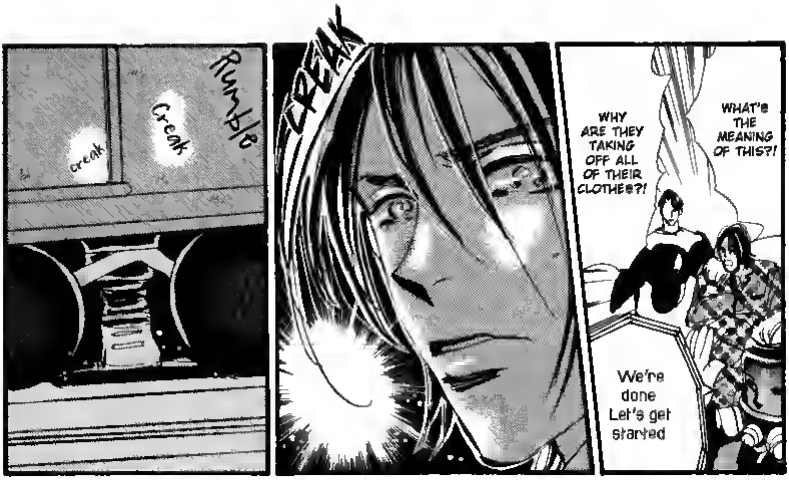
LET'S HAVE ABOUT 50 PEOPLE ENTER.
TO START,
trudge
trudge
SO PLEASE LEAVE EVERYTHING IN THE CAR.
YOUR BAGGAGE WILL BE TRANSPORTED SEPARATELY,

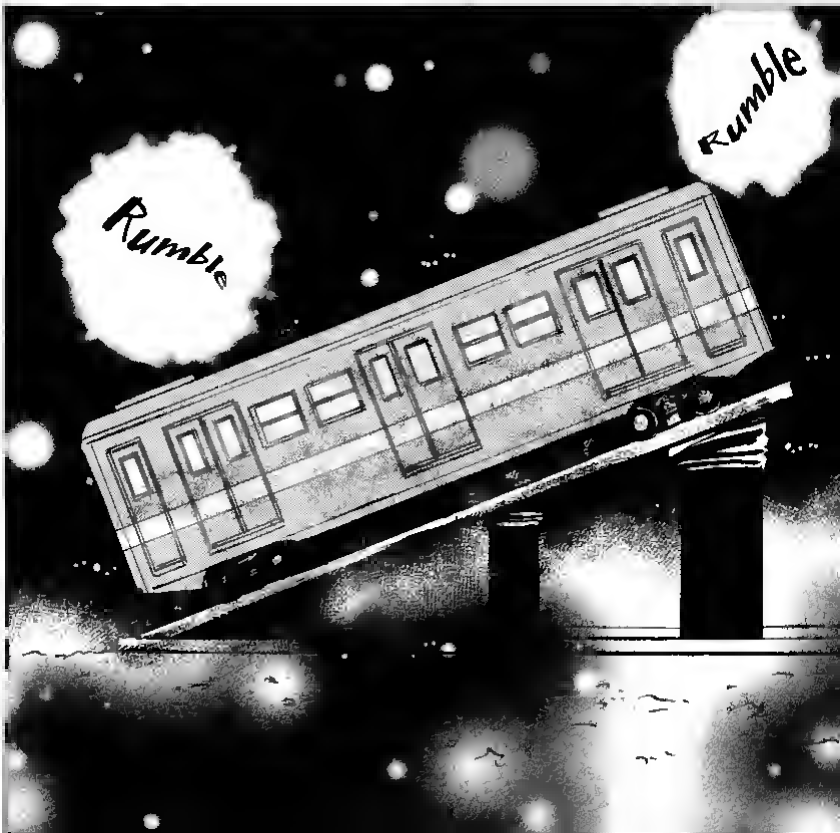

AFTER THAT LONE CAR HAD GONE A SHORT WAYS,
creak
IT STOPPED.
I HAVE TO GET OFF?
HUH?
Mark you can only accompany them so far
OKAY, EVERYBODY TAKE CARE!
BRUSH YOUR TEETH!
BUZZ
BUZZ
clap clap
THANK YOU, IT WAS FUN!
WE'LL MISS YOU!

Rustle
IT'S HERE
crunch
crunch
I...
WANTED TO GO TO ISE, THOUGH

WATCH...?
YOU'RE FISUKE?!
You have a sense of humor?
No way
YOU SHOULD WATCH
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'S HERE? THERE'S NOTHING BUT DARKNESS...
TAKASHI-SAN?!
Mm, Yeah

IS SLEEP-ING?!
EVERY-BODY...
trudge
trudge
trudge
WE FILLED IT WITH SLEEPING GAS
HUH?!
WHY ARE THEY DOING THAT...?!
...WHAT ARE THEY DOING?!
WHAT?!
WE HAVE TO USE OUR RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY
HUH?!
WHAT?!
CLOTHING AND PRECIOUS METALS ARE COMMODITIES


Rumble
Creak
Creak
CREAK
WHY ARE THEY TAKING OFF ALL OF THEIR CLOTHES?!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
We're done Let's get started


Rumble
Rumble

WHR

SFX RUMBLE

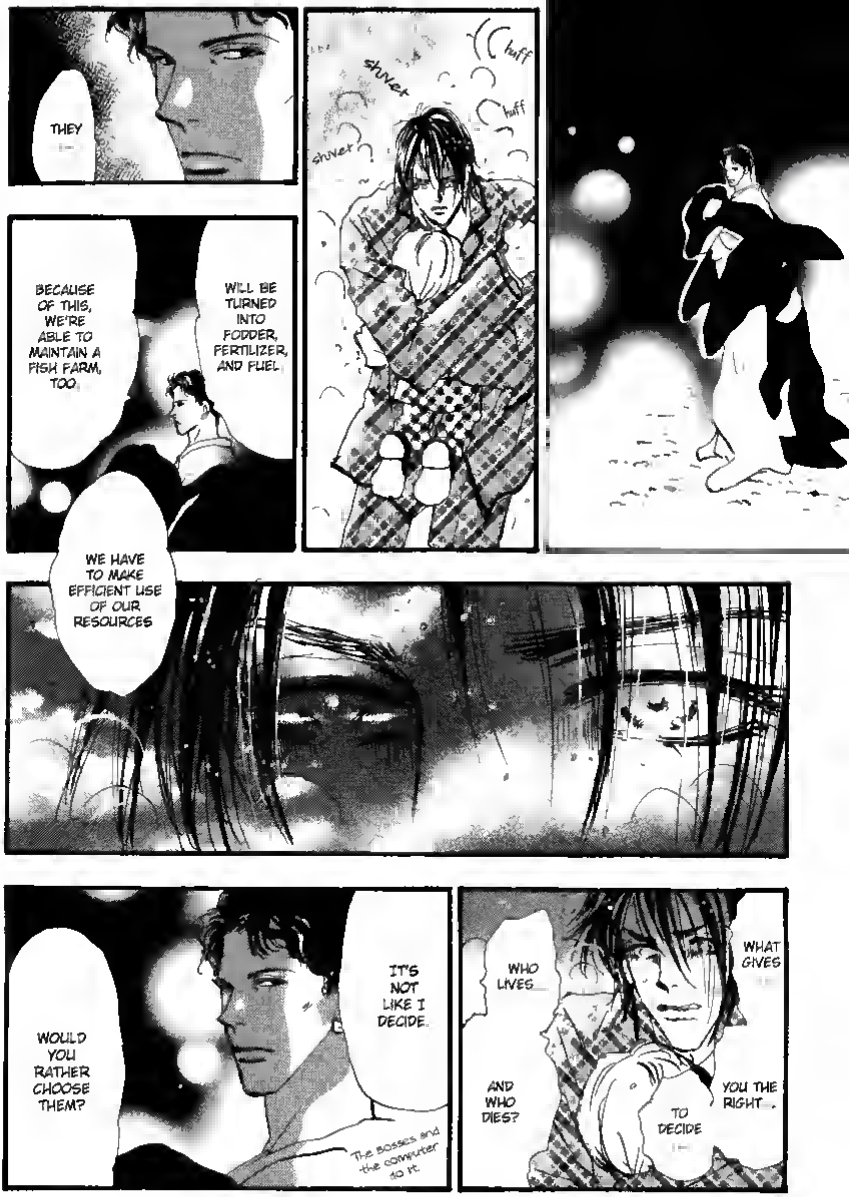
SFX RUMBLE

SHOULD I FOLLOW HIM?
NO,
HE'LL COME BACK.
Let's load up the next ones.
dash

THAT'S RIGHT.
AND LOCKED UP HERE.
WE WERE TRICKED BY A BUNCH OF LUNATICS...
THEY ARE...
THEY...
CRUNCH
huff
NUTS.
huff
huff
huff
Stomp

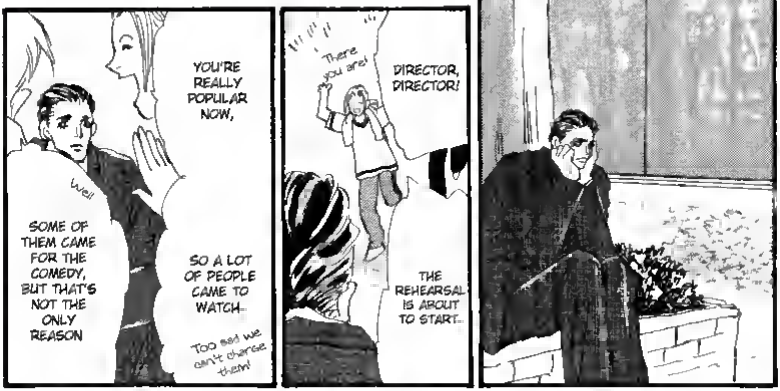
I BET NOTHING HAPPENED...
CLANG
IN THE WORLD ABOVE!

huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
wheeze
huff


THEY
shiver
huff
huff
shiver
BECAUSE OF THIS, WE'RE ABLE TO MAINTAIN A FISH FARM, TOO.
WILL BE TURNED INTO FODDER, FERTILIZER, AND FUEL.
WE HAVE TO MAKE EFFICIENT USE OF OUR RESOURCES
WOULD YOU RATHER CHOOSE THEM?
IT'S NOT LIKE I DECIDE.
The bosses and the computer do it.
WHO LIVES...
AND WHO DIES?
WHAT GIVES
YOU THE RIGHT...
TO DECIDE

WITH ALL THE OTHERS?
OR DO YOU WANT TO PEACE-FULLY STARVE TO DEATH...
THE GATE IS NARROW, MARK.
DO YOU WANT TO TALK THINGS OUT WITH EVERYONE?
OR DRAW LOTS?
TO KANSAI, WHERE I DON'T KNOW ANYBODY, TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE
THAT'S WHY...
THEY SENT ME...
DON'T YOU...
ANY-THING...?
FEEL...
ARE YOU...
GOING TO KILL ME TOO?
ME AND MA... MARIA-SAN?
WE'LL DO THAT SOONER OR LATER.
IF WE CAN'T GET OUTSIDE.
HOW ABOUT...
REDUCING YOUR OWN NUMBERS?

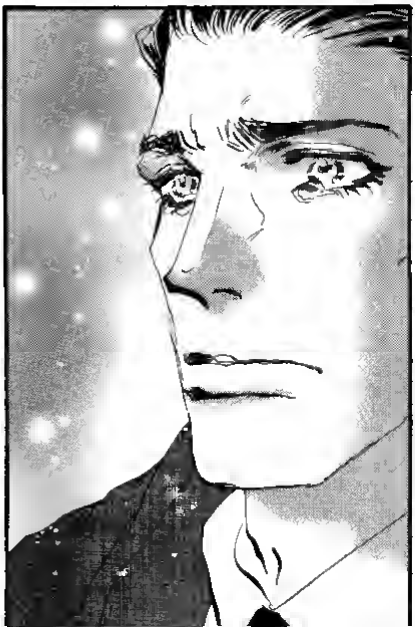
I BROUGHT YOU GUYS WITH ME WITH FULL CONFIDENCE IN YOU
YOU STILL HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO FOR ME
f-WUP
LOOK, THE NEXT ONE IS HERE
SCREECH
ENTER-TAIN THEM.
ONE LAST TIME, MARK
YOU CAN DO THAT RIGHT?
YOU CAN KEEP TELLING LIES....
TO THE VERY END, CAN'T YOU?

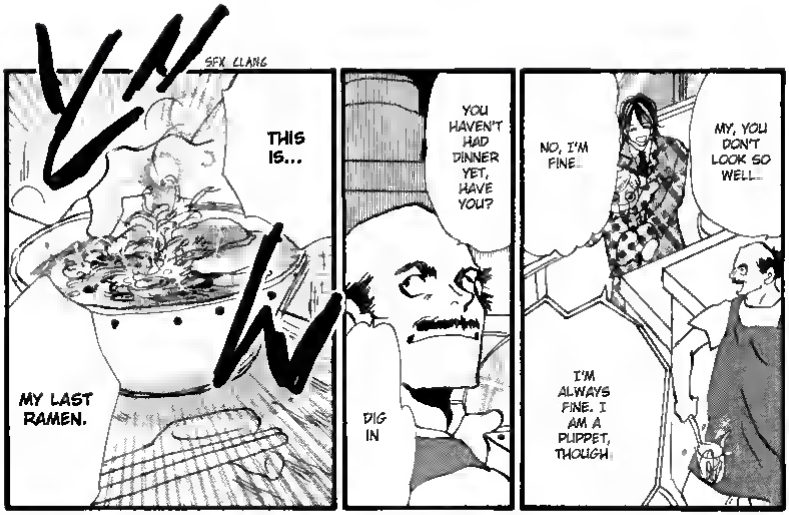

YOU'RE REALLY POPULAR NOW,
Well
SOME OF THEM CAME FOR THE COMEDY, BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON
SO A LOT OF PEOPLE CAME TO WATCH...
Too sad we can't change them!
There you are!
DIRECTOR, DIRECTOR!
THE REHEARSAL IS ABOUT TO START...

SO IT REALLY MUST BE BECAUSE YOU MAKE THEM LAUGH OR CHEER THEM UP!
HAHAHA
AND YOU KIND OF STRUGGLE THROUGH IT
YOU'RE NOT GREAT OR ANYTHING
Right?
EVERYBODY LIKES YOU, DIRECTOR!

HAHAHA
HE ALWAYS HAS TO EXAGGERATE!
HAHAHAHA
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG, DIRECTOR?

MARK,
COME HERE FOR A MINUTE




SFX: CLANG
THIS IS...
MY LAST RAMEN.
YOU HAVEN'T HAD DINNER YET, HAVE YOU?
DIG IN
NO, I'M FINE...
MY, YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL...
I'M ALWAYS FINE. I AM A PUPPET, THOUGH.

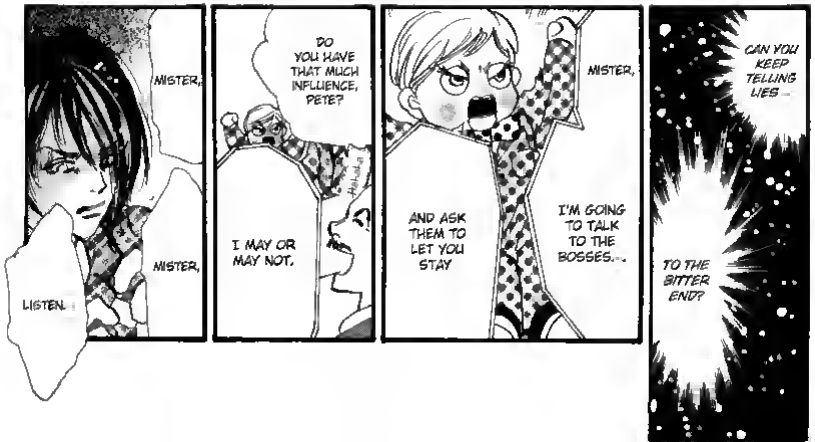
MY WORK HERE IS DONE, TOO.
I'M GOING TO MOVE TO ISE.

I WANTED YOU TO HAVE IT
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING

MISTER...
THANK YOU.

YOU CAN'T GO.
MISTER
We still have instant ramen in stock so please keep on coming here to eat.
MY DAUGHTER WILL STAY HERE, THOUGH.
IT'S JUST ME.

YOU MUSTN'T GO.

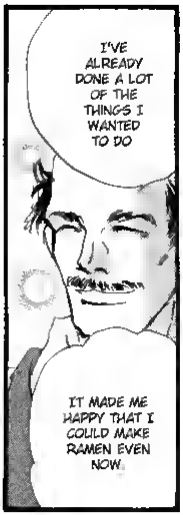

MISTER,
LISTEN...
MISTER,
DO YOU HAVE THAT MUCH INFLUENCE, PETE?
I MAY OR MAY NOT.
MISTER,
AND ASK THEM TO LET YOU STAY
I'M GOING TO TALK TO THE BOSSES...
CAN YOU KEEP TELLING LIES...
TO THE BITTER END?

IT'S OKAY, MARK
SINCE MY DAUGHTER CAN STAY.

AND NOW...

HURRY UP AND EAT!
YES, SIR!
IT'LL GET STALE!

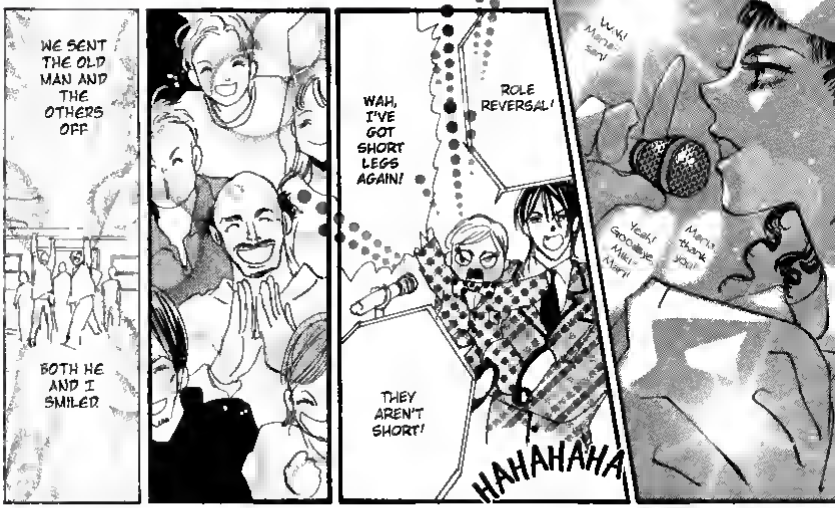
IT'S MY WISH THAT MY DAUGHTER CAN STAY HERE.
SEND ME OFF WITH A SMILE
SO DON'T BE SAD, MARK AND PETE.


I'VE ALREADY DONE A LOT OF THE THINGS I WANTED TO DO
IT MADE ME HAPPY THAT I COULD MAKE RAMEN EVEN NOW.

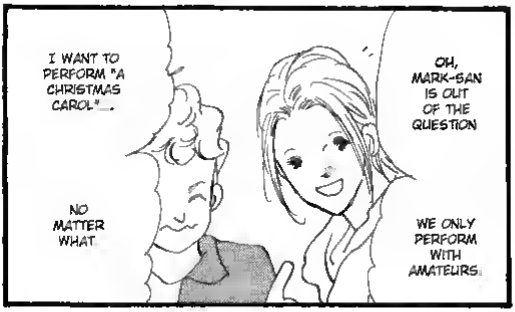
MISTER!
SAY THAT YOU WON'T GO,
PLEASE SAY THAT YOU WON'T GO.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IT WOULDN'T SOLVE ANYTHING.
EVEN IF I TOLD EVERYONE AND STARTED A RIOT,
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HARD,
THIS IS HARD WORK MARK.
AND YOU'LL DO SO FROM NOW ON, TOO.
I KNOW...
AND FUNNY IN PRIVATE.
THAT PERFORMERS AREN'T ALWAYS CHEERFUL...
MARK
I...
CAN'T SEND HIM OFF WITH A SMILE.
I CAN'T BE HAPPY IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS.
I'M ACTUALLY REALLY DEPRESSED.

TAKASHI-SAN ASKED ME. .
IF I COULD KEEP SINGING TO THE VERY END
I TOLD HIM THAT I'D SING. .
AS LONG AS THERE WERE PEOPLE LISTENING TO ME.
I WILL SING.
NOT INSTINCTIVELY
OR BECAUSE I LIKE IT.
BUT BECAUSE WE'RE PROFES-SIONALS.

LET'S DO...
DID HE COME BACK?!
WAH, MR. HINO!
YOUR HOMERUN THE OTHER DAY WAS GREAT!
YOU'LL BE HOMERUN CHAMPION THIS YEAR, TOO.
I'LL ROOT FOR YOU EVERY DAY!
OUR JOB...
LET'S DO OUR BEST, MARK.
TO THE VERY END.
YEAH!
Hey, hey, hey!
See you guys!
Take care of yourselves over there, too!
SARU-KUN,
WE'RE PROFES-SIONALS, I GUESS.


WE SENT THE OLD MAN AND THE OTHERS OFF
BOTH HE AND I SMILED
WAH, I'VE GOT SHORT LEGS AGAIN!
ROLE REVERSAL!
THEY AREN'T SHORT!
HAHAHAHA
Mama-san!
Yeah! Goodbye, Mikiri, Mama!
Mama, thank you!

HIS LAST RAMEN MORE.
I WISH I COULD HAVE ENJOYED...


I WANT TO PERFORM "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"...
NO MATTER WHAT
OH, MARK-SAN IS OUT OF THE QUESTION
WE ONLY PERFORM WITH AMATEURS.

WE LOST A FEW MEMBERS OF OUR TROUPE,
SO LET'S RECRUIT SOME NEW ONES.

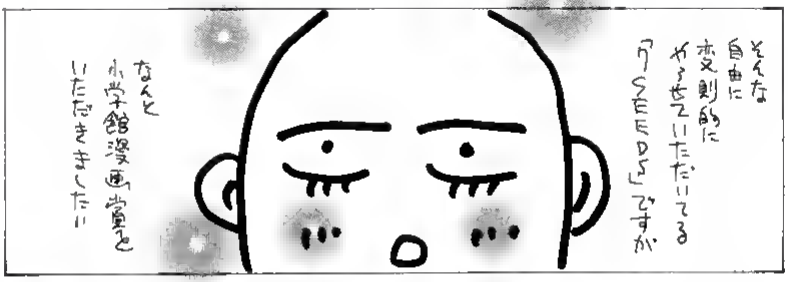
IF YOU DO YOUR BEST IN THE PRESENT...
YOUR FUTURE...
IF YOU WORK HARD AND LIVE A DECENT LIFE IN THE PRESENT.
I WANT TO PERFORM IT FOR THE CHILDREN.
THE STORY...
IS ABOUT HOW YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR FUTURE FOR THE BETTER...
BUZZ
WHAT?
Let's make a team
WHO WANTS TO PLAY BASEBALL IN THE CENTRAL HALL?
CAN IT REALLY...?
I'M IN!
WITH YOU, MR. HINO?!
ME, TOO!
KTUGU
CAN BE CHANGED FOR THE BETTER...
THE PLAY WAS CALLED OFF
WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME FOR STUFF LIKE THAT ANYMORE
MARY SUDDENLY WENT CRAZY...
AND BIT ME.
Owl
What?
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER?
THE COW?!
AH!
Eek!
Stagg
Stumb
GET A STRETCHER!
CALL A DOCTOR!

2まいめの

たむたむたいむ

田村由美

ふだん月刊「フラワーズ」という雑誌で連載してます。よかったらカエソーの感想などぜひ下さいね。


そんな
自由に
変則的に
やらせていただいてる
「りくたむ」ですが
なんと
小学館漫画賞を
いただきました!!
実は昔(少年前)に
「BAZAR」というので
いただいたことが
あるのですが
2度目はないだろうと
思っておりました。
今日 従来があるからと
電話の前で待機
してるように言われる
ないない
また しないよ
あこう
なので
ものすごく
びっくりしました
おめでとう
ございます
マジですか
とまじでとまどってしまいました。
どうも
あせる
どんなふうに
ノミネートされて
どんなふうに
決まるのか
全然知らないのが
ですが
きっと
どこかで
読んでくださってる
たくさんのかたが
応援して下さったから
なのだと思います。
また
幸せものに
していただきました。
ううう
ありがとう
ございます!!
これからも
どうぞよろしく
お願いいたします!!
田村由美
みなさまにも 幸せなことが おとずれますように!
お元気で! あいたかく なすさん下さい! 大わなんとロミ

〈たむたむたいむ〉＊おわり＊

FCα FLOWER COMICS α
flowers フラワーコミックスアルファ

7SEEDS

セブンシーズ

Story & Art
田村由美

10

10

田村由美

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●作品紹介

★冷凍保存によって、人類滅亡を回避するため発動した7SEEDS計画。地獄のように変わってしまった地球で、今を生きることを余儀なくされた若者たち。彼等は生存者を探す旅の途中で、巨大シェルターの存在を知る。そこに残された日記を読む中、地下での生活の全容が明らかになっていくのだが!?